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Pakistan

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Contents

		Page
	Introduction	3
I.	Methodology and consultation process	3
II.	Legal, policy and institutional developments	3
III.	Consolidating democracy (recommendations 76, 77 and 120)	4
IV.	Strengthening human rights institutions (recommendations 16, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52 and 55)	5
V.	Adoption of National Action Plan on Human Rights (recommendations 66 and 73)	8
VI.	Promoting international cooperation and implementing Pakistan's international human rights obligations (recommendations 17,18,50,62,70 and 77)	8
VII.	Human rights education and training and awareness raising (recommendations 63, 64, 65, 69, 94, 97 and 152)	9
VIII.	Economic, social and cultural rights	10
IX.	Civil and political rights	15
X.	Rights of individuals and vulnerable groups	18
XI.	Challenges	23
XII.	National priorities and voluntary commitments	23
	Conclusion	24

Introduction

1. The Government of Pakistan is honoured to present its Third Universal Periodic Review Report to share progress made by Pakistan in the human rights field from 2012 to 2017 in a spirit of dialogue and constructive engagement with the international community. The report covers developments since the previous review, update on the status of implementation of accepted recommendations, challenges as well as national priorities and commitments for the promotion and protection of human rights.

2. Pakistan's commitment to human rights emanates in the first place from its Constitution and duty towards its people. We are determined to ensure that every Pakistani citizen lives in equality, dignity and freedom. The words of the Founding Father, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, are the guiding principle of our policy, "We are equal citizens of one State". Therefore, the Government attaches high priority to advancing the mutually reinforcing objectives of development, human rights and democracy and there is a strong and unequivocal political commitment in this regard.

I. Methodology and consultation process

3. The report has been prepared in accordance with the general guidelines for the preparation of information under the universal periodic review, decision 17/119. The report has been prepared by Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with Ministry of Human Rights.

4. The report is the outcome of a broad-based, inclusive and participatory consultation process in which all stakeholders were involved. The Ministry of Human Rights disseminated the recommendations received amongst all relevant federal and provincial stakeholders including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and mass media. A systematic and institutionalized process was followed in soliciting information. Matrices were designed and circulated among key line Federal Ministries and Provincial Departments as well as Treaty Implementation Cells (TICs) for implementation. National and Provincial consultative meetings were also arranged at Islamabad and provincial headquarters with the participation of the government officials and CSOs for seeking their input, and finalization of responses.

II. Legal, policy and institutional developments

5. A wide-range of legal, policy and institutional developments took place during the period from 2012 to 2017 details of which are given in response to accepted recommendations. During the period, a number of laws were passed by the Parliament as well as by the provincial assemblies to strengthen human rights (see Annex-I).

6. Within the governance structure of Pakistan, Federally Administered Tribal Areas – FATA- is under the administrative control of federal government. In order to mainstream FATA into national ambit, the Federal Cabinet has recently formulated ten-year socio-economic development plan of FATA which includes, inter alia, repeal of Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR), establishment of branches of superior judiciary and merger of FATA with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province. It will bring FATA into national fold and thereby will enable population of 4.4 million of tribal areas to enjoy fundamental rights enshrined in the constitutional and legal framework of Pakistan.

7. Vision 2025 is considered to be foundation for change and transformation which seeks to provide the social, legal and physical infrastructure needed to empower people and

ensure that they are able to live their lives with dignity. It focuses on ending discriminations and provides an enabling environment to all citizens of Pakistan to develop their full potential and share the benefits of economic growth, prosperity and social development.

8. The 11th Five-year Plan is another comprehensive document that sets out guiding principles and implementation strategies for national human rights development.

9. Pakistan is amongst the top ten countries in the world most adversely affected by climate change and related natural disasters. In addition to National Climate Change Policy, 2012 and its framework for implementation, Climate Change Act, 2017 has been adopted under which Pakistan Climate Change Council, Pakistan Climate Change Authority and Pakistan Climate Change Fund are being established. The Government has launched 'Green Pakistan Programme' whereby over 100 million trees will be planted in the country over the next 5 years. National forest policy, which sets out plans for mass tree planting, curbing deforestation and promoting conservation has also been formulated which envisages increasing the forest cover from 5% to 9% in the next 15 years.

10. The Government has developed National Sanitation Policy, National Drinking Water Policy, and Clean Development Mechanism to support inclusive development. The Government is also promoting right to development for it believes that real prosperity is shared prosperity. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a manifestation of international cooperation for the realization of right to development.

11. In addition to women, children, persons with disabilities and minorities, a number of policy measures have been taken for safeguarding rights of older persons, including establishment of Pakistan National Center on Aging and old homes in all provinces, adoption of the Islamabad Capital Territory Senior Citizens Welfare Bill 2013, KP Senior Citizen Act, 2014 and consideration of Punjab Senior Citizens Ordinance, 2013 and Sindh Senior Citizens Welfare Bill, 2014 by the respective provincial assemblies. Employees Old Age Benefits Institution (EOBI) provides monetary benefits to old age workers through various programmes. During the period 1st July, 2016 to 31st March, 2017, an amount of Rs. 17,921.7 million has been disbursed to 405,460 beneficiaries.

12. For the first time ever, the rights of Intersex and transgender persons have been recognized. In a judgment, the Supreme Court directed the National Database Regulatory Authority to issue national identity cards and passports to the transgender persons. The issue of transgender is being discussed at different forums which include Senate's Special Committee on Marginalized Segments of Society, Senate's Functional Committee on Human Rights and National Council for Social Welfare and Capital Administration and Development Division.

13. Transgender and Intersex Persons (Promotion and Protection of Rights) Bill, 2017 is under consideration. KP Government has allocated a special fund of Rs200 million for the welfare of transgender community in budget of 2016/2017 for the first time. The other provinces are also devising practical measures for protection of rights of transgender persons.

III. Consolidating democracy (recommendations 76, 77 and 120)

14. On 11 May 2013, there was a smooth transition from one democratically elected Government to another. The elections were observed by hundreds of international observers and were considered free and fair which further consolidated democracy. In order to strengthen democratic culture in the country, further electoral reforms are being introduced and Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) is being strengthened. Parliamentary

Committee on Electoral Reforms was established in July, 2014. The reforms package developed by the Committee is under consideration by the National Assembly of Pakistan.

A. Strengthening of Election Commission of Pakistan

15. ECP has been strengthened through a series of reforms and schemes. Through 22nd Constitutional Amendment, ECP has been empowered. Electoral reforms to encourage women to contest in general elections are being introduced by the ECP. ECP has also succeeded in securing 5% quota for women in the allocation of party tickets by all political parties.

16. To make the electoral process more inclusive so that all citizens can exercise their right to vote, Election Commission of Pakistan has taken initiatives, including, among others, inclusive voter education especially at the grass root level for ensuring the participation of women and persons with disabilities; establishment of Federal Election Academy; review of existing guidelines for polling staff for effective recording of gender disaggregated results in forms; recruitment of more women in ECP staff; reducing the voter turnout gaps between men and women through 124 District Voter Education Committees at District level, encouraging women, persons with disabilities and youth as first time voters to register as voters; to create awareness for communities to cast vote; celebration of national voter's day on 7 December; gender sensitization sessions and surveys of polling stations to make them accessible to persons with disabilities.

B. Local government elections

17. To strengthen participatory democracy, the subject of local government has been transferred from center to the provinces and responsibility of conducting elections was entrusted to the Election Commission in line with insertion of Article 140A in the Constitution of Pakistan through Eighteen Amendment-2010. The process of conducting local government elections has been completed recently in all provinces of Pakistan. The local governance system has empowered masses at the grassroots level.

IV. Strengthening human rights institutions (recommendations 16, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52 and 55)

18. The Government has set up comprehensive institutional mechanisms to ensure implementation of laws and policies and to take concrete action for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

A. Ministry of Human Rights

19. In November 2015, the Human Rights Wing of Ministry of Law and Justice was separated and was set up as a Ministry with the view to mainstream human rights in the country. It has a wide mandate and currently it has four Regional Offices. It has been allocated an amount of Rs. 1064.91 million during 2012-16 and Rs. 861.84 million has been utilized so far. A Helpline for Legal Advice on Human Rights Violations (1099) is functioning under the Ministry. More than 25,000 Calls have been received during the last year, out of which 2648 cases have been referred to concerned departments for redressal. It is also operating Women in Distress and Detention Fund (for financial and legal assistance to women), Diyat, Arsh and Daman Fund (for financial assistance to convicts) and Human

Rights Relief and Revolving Fund (Rs. 5.8 million dispersed among 459 victims of human rights violations in the last 3 years).

B. Provincial Human Rights Departments

20. All provinces have separate Human Rights Departments which are mandated to coordinate with public and private sector institutions as well as CSOs to promote human rights, to gather information, prepare fact finding reports on complaints and allegations of human rights violations and conduct inspections and visits. There are Human Rights Committees at District levels which can take up complaints and monitor human rights situation.

C. Parliamentary Committees on human rights

21. The Senate and National Assembly's Standing Committees on human rights provide oversight mechanism on public policy, monitor the human rights situation, receive complaints on human rights violations, conduct inquiries and make recommendations. These Committees have played an instrumental role in smooth adoption of various laws relating to human rights.

D. Human Rights Cells at Courts

22. In 2013, Human Rights Cells were expanded with a broader mandate and staff to provide an expeditious and inexpensive remedy in matters relating to infringements of fundamental rights. In addition, a separate Wing in the Human Rights Cell of the Supreme Court has been established to address violations of rights of overseas Pakistanis.

E. National Commission on Human Rights

23. A National Commission on Human Rights (NCHR) has been established by an Act of the Parliament in 2012 and made functional since May 2015. It includes a Chairperson, who is a former Judge of the Superior Judiciary, and consists of nine members, i.e., one from each province, FATA, Islamabad Capital Territory and minority communities. The Chairperson of the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) is also its ex-officio member. The Commission has been given suo moto powers to take action against cases of all human rights violations in the country. The Act gives the Commission powers to hold inquiries and investigations with regard to violation of human rights anywhere in Pakistan.

24. In accordance with the Paris Principles, the Commission has been made financially independent. Government approved supplementary grant of Rs. 100 million for establishment of NCHR Fund. Moreover, 171 posts have also been created. Further, NCHR Complaint Rules, 2015 have been notified which elaborate the procedure regarding evaluation and disposal of complaints. The provinces are also in the process of establishing provincial commissions for human rights. For instance, Government of Sindh has set up the Sindh Human Rights Commission in 2013.

F. National and Provincial Commissions on Status of Women

25. NCSW was strengthened and granted financial and administrative autonomy under NCSW Act, 2012. Its mandate includes review of legislative, policy, institutional and

administrative mechanisms established to protect rights of women. During the financial year (FY) 2016-2017, NCSW was allocated Rs. 45 million. Sindh, KPK and Punjab have also set up Provincial Commissions for the Status of Women. The Balochistan Commission on the Status of Women Bill, 2017 is also under consideration. In addition, an Inter Provincial Ministerial Group (IPMG) comprising of Ministers for Women Development, Secretaries of Provincial Women Development Departments, Chairperson NCSW and Ministry of Human Rights was constituted to meet and to agree on key priorities for gender equality in line with our international commitments.

G. National Commission on the rights of children

26. The National Commission for Child Welfare and Development (NCCWD) coordinates, monitors and facilitates implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. National Commission on the Rights of Children Bill, 2017 has been approved by the National Assembly. The Commission aims to promote, protect and monitor rights of children.

H. Strengthening of National Commission for Minorities

27. On 16 July 2014, the Terms of Reference of National Commission for Minorities (NCM) were revised with the view to make it more effective. Measures include, among others, development of national interfaith harmony policy, taking stock of discriminatory practices against minorities, ensuring participation of minorities in all spheres of national life, redressal of grievances of minorities and preservation and protection of places of worship of all minority communities.

I. National Council for Rights of Persons with Disabilities

28. The National Council for Rights of Persons with Disabilities has been set up with the view to monitor implementation of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and laws and policies relating to rights of persons with disabilities.

J. Offices of the ombudsman

29. Office of Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman) is functioning since 1983 to provide redress to people. The Ombudsman has headquarters in Islamabad and Regional Offices in major cities. Other ombudsman offices operating in Pakistan include Provincial Ombudsman offices in Punjab, Balochistan, Sindh and KP. For instance, Ombudsman Punjab received a total of 24,637 complaints and 21,530 complaints were disposed off in 2016. Similarly, out of 1617 complaints, Ombudsman KP disposed off 1199 complaints during 2016. A banking ombudsman, the Banking Mohtasib Pakistan, a Federal Insurance Ombudsman and a Federal Tax Ombudsman and Federal Ombudsperson for Protection of Women against Harassment at Workplace are also functioning at federal and provincial levels.

30. National Children Committee (NCC) is working under the umbrella of Federal Ombudsman of Pakistan which has appointed children commissioners in all the four provinces and Islamabad to protect children's fundamental rights and to provide them enabling environment for their development. The children commissioners have power to take suo moto notice on the state of children.

V. Adoption of National Action Plan on Human Rights (recommendations 66 and 73)

31. After extensive consultations with all stakeholders including the civil society, Pakistan has launched the historic National Action Plan on Human Rights in February 2016. The comprehensive plan consists of six thematic areas with 16 expected outcomes and 60 actions. The six thematic areas which cover all human rights dimensions include: (I) Policy, Legal Reforms; (ii) Access to justice; (iii) Implement key human rights priorities; (iv) International/UN Treaty implementation; (v) Establish and strengthen national human rights institutions; and (vi) Implementation and monitoring mechanism for the Action Plan.

32. The Action Plan envisages activities at both the Federal and Provincial levels in collaboration with Federal Ministries and Provincial Departments. An amount of Rs. 750 million has been allocated to support implementation of the Action Plan, which includes Rs. 400 million for human rights education, sensitization, awareness raising, research and communication, Rs. 250 million for establishment of a Human Rights Institute, and a Rs. 100 million Endowment Fund for free legal assistance for poor victims of human rights violations. A National Task Force under the chairmanship of the Federal Minister for Human Rights with the representation of Federal Ministries and Provincial Law/Human Rights Departments is overseeing and monitoring implementation of the Action Plan. The Action Plan will play a central role in setting our strategic direction and key priorities, and will align our interventions with our national and international obligations.

33. Ministry of Human Rights has formulated a draft National Policy Framework for promotion and protection of human rights after completing the consultative process at federal and provincial level. The draft has been circulated among Ministries/Divisions for final consultation/input before submission to Federal Cabinet for its approval. Formulation of provincial strategies on human rights is also in process in collaboration with Provincial Governments.

VI. Promoting international cooperation and implementing Pakistan's international human rights obligations (recommendations 17, 18, 50, 62, 70 and 77)

34. Pakistan has ratified and continues to implement seven core international human rights treaties and two optional protocols. Pakistan ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict in November 2016. We are focused on the implementation of these instruments at all levels. To achieve this objective, the Government has established Treaty Implementation Cells at Federal and Provincial levels to oversee compliance with these international instruments. A Module for capacity building of officials of the Federal and Provincial Governments about ratified human rights conventions has been prepared and so far 4 training workshops have been held.

35. Pakistan continues to regularly report to the relevant Treaty Bodies on the implementation of these conventions. Recently, Pakistan's Fifth Periodic Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (May 2016), 21st–23rd Periodic Report on the implementation of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (August 2016), initial reports on Convention against Torture (April 2017), International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (June 2017) and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (July 2017) were reviewed. In addition, A Law Reforms Committee has been constituted under the directive of the Prime Minister of Pakistan which is chaired by the Minister for Law and Justice, which convenes

regular meetings with different stake holders in order to reform and review the existing laws and also to bring other laws in strict conformity with the provisions of the Constitution and our international obligations.

36. At the international level, we continue to constructively engage with the UN human rights mechanisms. Pakistan is also working closely with Special Procedures of HRC. Special Rapporteur on the independence of Judges and Lawyers visited Pakistan from 19–29 May 2012, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances from 10–12 September 2012, and Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms while Countering Terrorism from 11–13 March 2013. The High Commissioner for Human Rights also visited Pakistan from 4–8 June 2012. These visits have been useful for us in terms of feedback and are reflective of our commitment for the promotion and protection of human rights. These visits were part of our undertaking to enhance our cooperation in the field of human rights with OHCHR. We have also decided to extend invitations to the Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and of Association, and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, to visit Pakistan on mutually convenient dates.

VII. Human rights education and training and awareness raising (recommendations 63, 64, 65, 69, 94, 97 and 152)

37. Human Rights education, training and awareness raising plays an instrumental role in promoting respect for and observance of human rights. An amount of Rs. 250 million has exclusively been allocated for establishment of National Institute of Human Rights. It is a training, research and capacity building institute which aims to build capacity of duty bearers involved in human rights protection in particular and progressive realization of human rights in general. The establishment of the institution is under process.

38. The Ministry of Human Rights has initiated Public Awareness Campaign on Human Rights Education and Sensitization under Action Plan for Human Rights, 2016 through Seminars and media campaigns. In this regard, the following activities have been undertaken:

- 60 Seminars have been organized in various Universities during 2015–16 and 2016–2017.
- Conducting of 12 capacity-building workshops for prosecutors and court official on rights of women.
- 3 Day Public Awareness Campaign on Pakistan Radio Network, PTV and ATV has been launched for awareness raising among general masses.
- 6 Day Public Awareness Campaign has been launched on print media through publishing half page/quarter page advertisements.
- Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Material on Human Rights Issues" has been developed as part of Public Awareness Program.
- Universal Children Day (20th November) International Human Rights Day (10th December) and International Women's Day (08th March) are also celebrated as regular features in order to create awareness among the masses.
- Human rights education has been introduced in training institutions of law enforcement agencies and judiciary, and is being gradually introduced in all academic institutions.

VIII. Economic, social and cultural rights

A. Implementing MDGs-SDGs (recommendations 57, 142, 161 and 162)

39. On 19th February, 2016, Pakistan became the first country in the world whose National Assembly passed a unanimous Resolution adopting the 2030 Agenda as its own national development agenda reflecting broad political support for it. The pillars of Vision 2025 are aligned with SDGs. SDG's Secretariat has been set up in the National Assembly and a parliamentary SDG's Task Force has been formed to ensure integration of SDG's in policies and Laws.

B. Right to education (recommendations 36, 68, 72, 83, 88, 131, 135, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150 and 153)

40. Under Article 25-A of the constitution, provision of free and compulsory education to all the children of age 5 to 16 is declared as a fundamental right. The provincial governments have passed legislations to ensure implementation of article 25-A. Pakistan is committed to achieve SDGs related to education and is committed to ensure that all girls and boys complete free, and quality primary and secondary education by 2030. A large number of initiatives have been launched by the Federal and Provincial Governments:

- The National Plan of Action has been prepared by the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training through an extensive Consultation with the Education Departments of Provinces/Areas, and with the technical cooperation of UNESCO and UNICEF.
- Pakistan's education budget has been increasing and has gone up by an average of 17.5% every year since 2010. It was doubled from $3.5 billion in 2010–11 to $7.5 billion in 2016–17. The provinces have allocated 17% to 24% of their budgets for education in 2016–17.
- Basic Education Community Schools (BECS) and National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) have opened about 20 thousand feeder schools to provide education in remote and difficult areas of Pakistan.
- Waseela-e-Taleem (WeT) is designed to encourage BISP beneficiary families having children in the age group of 5 to 12 years, to send their out of school children to schools for primary education in return for cash transfers. This involves a cash transfer of Rs. 250 per month paid quarterly (Rs. 750 per child) for all children of each beneficiary family in the age bracket of 5–12 years in return for their compliance with the co-responsibilities of school admission and a minimum of 70 percent quarterly attendance. So far, over 1.3 million children have been enrolled and Rs. 2.9 billion has been disbursed as stipend under WeT.
- Punjab Education Foundation (PEF) operates a network of 6500 partner schools and runs a Free Voucher Scheme to provide scholarships for students in private schools.
- Punjab Education Sector Reform Programme, during FY 2013-14, distributed stipends worth Rs.1.5 billion among 411,000 girls in 16 districts of Punjab.
- KP during fiscal year 2015–16, disbursed funds among 465,000 girl students. Free textbooks costing Rs. 2.05 billion were distributed among 5,415,662 students. Three thousands scholarships were given to girls' students of Torghar and Kohistan districts. Stoori Da Pakhtunkhwa Scholarships were awarded to 1,226 students of Secondary and Higher Secondary School.

- Sindh has also built 3,500 classrooms and provided about 5000 missing facilities in different schools. Government of Sindh also disbursed 7.5 million text books from class 1–12 and provided stipend to 420,000 Girls and amount was increased from Rs.1000 to Rs. 2500 and Rs 2400 to Rs.3500 for girls.
- Balochistan Education Department has reconstructed educational facilities and provided missing facilities instead of focusing only on building new schools.
- National Curriculum Council is reviewing the Curriculum of 2006 to update the curriculum and include cross cutting themes in the curriculum such as tolerance, human rights, civic education and democracy etc. Curriculum reforms have been introduced for school textbooks by provinces. For instance, curriculum in Punjab is being reviewed and revised systematically by including human rights education.

C. Right to adequate housing (recommendation 163)

41. Due to growing population, Pakistan has been facing the shortage of housing units. As an initial step, House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) and Pakistan and Provincial Housing Authorities (PHA) were given target of constructing apartments at affordable price for low and middle-income groups. The PHA has so far undertaken 18 projects involving 4,476 housing units in four major cities including Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Peshawar.

42. Government of the Punjab launched Aashiyana Housing Scheme for poor, widows, workers, and farmers at low cost. The Government of Baluchistan has also earmarked a piece of land for a housing scheme for Christian community. NASAPA Flats and High-Rise Flats, Housing Schemes at Jalozai, Mullazai, Jerma, Havelian and establishment of model towns in different districts of KP are underway to provide affordable housing to the citizens. Government of Sindh has not only started its own housing schemes but has also prepared lists of Registered Cooperative Societies. The achievements could have been much more, had it not been for the 2010 great flood which destroyed nearly 20 million homes.

D. Right to work (recommendations 58, 74, 88, 128, 129 and 163)

43. The Government is committed towards ensuring full and productive employment with the view to promote decent employment opportunities and human resource development. In this context:

- The government has made adequate allocation under Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) for provinces and less developed areas for increasing pace of development and progress. The present allocation of Rs 1000 billion under PSDP is the highest ever in the country's history which would lead to job growth.
- Under CPEC, special economic zones and new economic cities are being developed creating livelihood and entrepreneurial opportunities for the people of Pakistan.
- SME Banks have disbursed loans amounting to Rs. 59,936,092,228 million on easy installments. As a result, 3,231,022 persons have benefited.
- Under the auspices of President's Rozgar Scheme, National Bank of Pakistan has offered an average amount of Rs. 100,000 to the unemployed and poor people for a period of five years.

- National Internship Program (NIP) hires educated youth as paid interns in the public sector organizations. During the last three years, NIP has offered internships to more than 85,000 young people.
- Government has allocated Rs. 5 billion during 2013-14 under Prime Minister's Business Loan Scheme which focuses on young entrepreneurs between the age group of 21 - 45 years to start new business. 8661 loans amounting to Rs. 8.24 billion have been disbursed under this program. 50% of loans are earmarked specifically for women.
- PM's Interest Free Loans Scheme is a micro-finance facility. Average loan size is Rs. 21,996 and total amount of Rs. 5.04 million has been disbursed.
- Under PM's Youth Skill Development Programme 50,000 individuals have already received training while another batch of 25,000 is currently undergoing training.
- PM's Fee Re-Imbursement Scheme aims to provide finance through tuition fees paid directly to universities from which Almost 150,000 students have benefited.

E. Bonded labour (recommendation 60)

44. Pakistan is fully committed to abolition of any form of bonded labour or slavery. We have ratified ILO Conventions No. 29 and No. 105, and have prohibited bonded labor with a fairly strong Bonded Labor System (Abolition) Act of 1992 (BLASA). The Act also establishes a "District Vigilance Committee System" to promote enforcement nationwide by monitoring and identifying instances of bonded labour. All provinces have enacted their respective laws to deal with the menace of bonded labour and inspections are carried out regularly. For instance, 9000 inspections were carried out in 2016 and 850 FIRs were lodged in cases involving child labour in the province of Punjab alone.

45. Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OP&HRD) has developed a National Framework to address child Labour and Bonded Labour- which includes actions on improving legislation and enforcement. The Ministry of OP&HRD is also developing a 'Labour Protection framework' including a time-bound Action Plan-covering seven areas. ILO country office will support the Ministry of OP&HRD and Provincial Department of Labour to initiate and "Information campaign" on eight core labour standards including child and Bonded Labour.

F. Right to health (recommendations 68, 92, 131, 136, 137, 138, 139, 161 and 162)

46. The Government is fully committed to providing better health service to its citizens. Provinces have allocated a large part of their resources in improving the health sector with a particular focus on women and children.

- The National Health Vision 2016-25 aims to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Pakistan resulting in a fairer, more efficient health financing that pools risk and shares healthcare costs equitably across the population.
- Prime Minister's National Health Program has a focus on population below poverty line ($ 2 per day). A total of about 100 million people will benefit from it. Services have been started in 15 districts covering 3.1 million families approximately.
- Family Planning and Primary Health Care, Expanded Program for Immunization (EPI), Malaria Control Program, Tuberculosis Control Program, HIV/ Aids Program, Maternal and Child Health Program, Universal Salt Iodization Program

and Prime Minister's Program for prevention and control of Hepatitis in Pakistan aims to improve health indicators.

- The Government has launched a program to improve Maternal and Neonatal health service for all, particularly the poor and the disadvantaged at all levels of health care delivery system. It aims to provide improved access to high quality Mother and Child health and Family Planning services, has trained 10,000 community midwives, made provision of comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) services in 275 hospitals / health facilities, made provision of basic EmONC services in 550 health facilities and family planning services in all health outlets. The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) has been reduced from 74 and 92 per thousand to 66 and 81 per thousand respectively, a reduction of 10%.
- The Government of KPK has merged various projects and programs in to Integrated Health Project (IHP). Sehat ka Insaf Card programme, at the total cost of Rs.5362.2 million, covers 50 per cent of the population of KP including 1.8 million households.
- Family Welfare Centers and Reproductive Health Services A Canters (RHS-A) promote and deliver family planning services in the urban and rural areas of Sindh and Punjab. Government of sindh has developed Costed Implementation Plan (CIP) and allocated additional Rs. 890 million to accelerate family planning activities in ten districts.
- Medicine Pricing Policy has developed to ensure affordable prices of quality medicines.

G. Right to food (recommendations 129, 130 and 161)

47. In Pakistan concerted efforts are being made to ensure food security through a number of policy initiatives, including, among others, establishment of Ministry of National Food Security & Research, introduction of social-safety-nets and poverty reduction programs, provision of agricultural subsidies and setting up of Pakistan Agriculture and Research Council to achieve sustainable production in agriculture for food security. The federal government has also established National Food Security Commission (NFSC) a step forward to develop a national policy for the long-term sustainability of food security and agriculture development, which is being chaired by the Prime Minister.

48. Pakistan joined global Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) initiative in 2013 and subsequently established a national Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) secretariat in Planning and Development Division. Governments of all provinces have also established SUN secretariat in the Planning and Development Departments of their respective provinces. MNFSR is developing Zero Hunger Programme in collaboration with World Food Program to improve the food security situation in the targeted districts of Pakistan. In 2015, a national Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) strategy was developed and endorsed with UNICEF support.

49. All provinces have developed Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategies. Under Punjab Food Support Scheme, government of Punjab has been giving Rs. 1,000 per household to enable deserving people meet their food needs. Up till now, it has benefited one million poor people. In KP Health Integrated Reforms Program having 4th component as nutrition at a cost of Rs 20 million out of Rs 14.11 billion is implemented. In Baloschistan Nutrition Program for Mother& Children has been initiated in 7 districts. In Sindh "Nutrition Support Program" and "Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture" project has been launched for three districts at a cost of Rs. 582.00 million.

II. Social security and poverty alleviation (recommendations 36, 74, 87, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 135, 160 and 164)

50. Realizing that human rights cannot be enjoyed without the fulfillment of human needs, the Government is fully committed to eradicate poverty. Pakistan's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), comprises of nine pillars with the aim to reduce poverty. In this context:

- Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) acts as an Apex Organization carrying out programmes through 134 partner organizations. It supports the government's social protection programme by providing poverty graduation approach for the poorest household in over 1,600 union councils in the country. Since 2000 to March 2017, PPAF has disbursed an amount of Rs. 184.94 billion in 130 districts.
- National, Punjab, Sindh and Thardeep Rural Support Program (NRSP) mandates to alleviate poverty by harnessing people's potential and undertake development activities in 56 Districts in provinces. An amount of Rs. 13,137,900 million has been disbursed from July 2016 to December 2016 among 921,558 active borrowers.
- Under Punjab Chief Minister's Green Tractor Scheme, 10 thousand tractors and subsidy of two lakh rupees have been provided to men and women farmers during the last four years. The Government of Sindh also launched Benazir Tractor Scheme program for farmers.
- Zakat system plays an important role in poverty alleviation and is utilized for assistance to the needy, indigent, poor, orphans, widows and persons with disabilities. A total amount of Rs. 7570.910 million has been distributed amongst the provinces and other administrative areas in FY 2017.
- Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal (PBM) is making a significant contribution towards provision of social security and reduction in poverty. During July 2016 to March 2017, PBM has disbursed an amount of Rs. 2183 million through its core projects/ schemes.
- Child Support Programme (CSP) is the country's first ever Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme in which cash incentive is provided to the potential families for sending their children aged 5-16 years to primary schools which is being run in 13 districts countrywide. During July-March 2017, an amount of Rs. 29 million has been disbursed.
- The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) addresses poverty of women in far-flung areas. The program cushions shocks for the vulnerable and redistributes money through cash transfer to female beneficiaries of poor households. At present, the number of beneficiaries are 5.42 million. The budgetary allocation has been increased from Rs. 70 Billion in FY 2012-13 to Rs. 115 billion during 2016-17. The quarterly grant has also been enhanced from Rs. 3000/ family in 2013-14 to Rs 4834/ family in FY 2016-17.

I. Good governance (recommendation 109)

51. The Government is fully committed towards good governance and elimination of corruption from the society. National Accountability Bureau (NAB) is Pakistan's apex agency against corruption to take various measures to eradicate corruption in public sector and to expedite its work to make the responsible involved in corruption accountable. NAB has adopted three pronged strategy i.e. awareness, prevention and enforcement. Public message" Say No to Corruption" is widely circulated among the masses through media campaign. During the last three years, NAB filed more than 150 corruption references

against corrupt persons in respective NAB courts and recovered Rs. 85 billion. Currently, NAB's conviction ratio is 70%.

IX. Civil and political rights

A. Rights of freedom of opinion and expression (recommendations 27 and 29)

92. The Government's strong commitment to the promotion and protection of freedom of expression and opinion is demonstrated by the fact that more than 100 media channels and hundreds of newspapers enjoy complete freedom. They highlight political, social and human rights issues and lead the national debate on issues of public importance, and have been critical of the Government and its policies.

93. In August 2016, Prevention of Electronic Crime Act was adopted by the Parliament with the view to prevent cyber-crimes and protect citizen's rights of freedom of expression and opinion. All the provinces have formulated Right to Access Information Act. The Ministry of Information Technology and Telecom made concerted efforts to provide access to internet to people especially in rural areas. The number of broadband subscribers in Pakistan has risen from just 3 million in 2014 to 42 million in 2017.

B. Freedom of religion or belief (recommendations 27, 112, 125, 126 and 155)

94. The Constitution of Pakistan as well as other laws guarantee freedom of religion and belief. The June 2014 Judgment of Supreme Court reaffirmed that every citizen of the country is free to profess his or her religion. In this regard, Anti Terrorism Courts have sentenced many culprits involved in the offences against religious minorities.

95. Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority ensures that no programme or advertisement shall contain or encourage religious discrimination and extremism. In its efforts to ensure respect of religions and maintain harmony in the society, the Government is taking serious actions against hate speech which could lead to instances of allegations of blasphemy and religious discrimination. For instance, Punjab Sound System (Regulation Act, 2015) is a recent initiative which is being successfully implemented to eliminate the use of loud speakers for incitement. Punjab Vigilance Committee Act, 2016 provides the establishment of vigilance committees at the district and provincial level which are mandated to report any unlawful activity being carried out, or being planned, with respect to incitement. In KP, Commissioners and Police formations have been directed to exhibit zero tolerance to hate speeches and material. 126 FIRs have been lodged and 147 persons have been arrested since 15th December, 2014. Strict action is also being taken in different districts of Balochistan and Sindh.

96. The maintenance and upkeep of religious sites, shrines, temples, churches, etc. is done at government expense. To combat terrorist threats, the Government has enhanced security around places of worship of all communities. For instance, security deployment at religious institutions is being systematically planned and implemented by the Punjab Police. Punjab Security of Vulnerable Establishments Act, 2015, provides security advisory committees at district level to identify vulnerable establishments in the province. Places of worship and other religious sites are covered in this act. Similar efforts are underway in Sindh through Committees at Provincial and District Level. Government of Sindh has installed CCTV cameras in all sensitive Mandirs for protection purposes. Besides,

Provincial Home Departments are providing security to Minorities on different occasions like, Holi, Easter, Good Friday and Sunday prayers.

C. Promotion of interfaith dialogue and cooperation (recommendations 122, 123 and 125)

57. Ministry of Religious Affairs was merged into Ministry of Interfaith Harmony in 2013 now named Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. This has not only helped in dealing with Muslims and other religious minorities under the same institutional arrangement, but has also facilitated in fostering interfaith and interreligious dialogue and harmony at the grass-roots level. Currently, National Interfaith Harmony Policy is being formulated to promote interfaith dialogue and cooperation.

58. In order to promote interfaith dialogue and harmony, ten religious festivals of Minorities are celebrated officially in Pakistan. Political leaders, public representatives as well as Muslims take part in these religious festivals. These festivals are widely covered by the print and electronic media. For instance, the President and /or the Prime Minister host special functions in the Presidency/Prime Minister House on these occasions for Christians and Hindus and issue special messages. For instance, the President held a ceremony at the Presidency on Christmas on 24 December 2016 with the participation of the Prime Minister, Minister for Religious Affairs and Minister for Human Rights along with Christian community. Ahead of Christmas in 2016, Minister for Railways also inaugurated a special Christmas Peace Train which travelled across the country. They also at times attend religious ceremonies in Churches, Temples and Gurdwaras. The Prime Minister celebrated Diwali in 2015 and Holi in 2017 along with Hindu community.

59. Realizing the imperative need to promote interfaith dialogue at the grass-roots level, the Government of Pakistan has constituted 124 Interfaith Harmony Committees at the district level with representation of both Muslims and religious minorities. Several conferences have been organized on interfaith harmony. For instance, National Conference on the theme of "Living Together with Diversity: Inter-faith and Inter-Cultural Dialogue" was held from 20–22 February, 2013 in which the Prime Minister and President of Pakistan participated. Several interfaith dialogue organizations have been established by Muslim religious leaders. A number of civil society organizations are also working for the promotion of interfaith dialogue and harmony.

D. Enforced disappearances (recommendations 20, 111, 114 and 115)

60. In order to take effective measures to deal with the issue of enforced disappearances, in April 2010, the Federal Government set up a Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances (COIED). The Commission has been vested with broad powers, including the power to register an FIR against whom evidence of involvement in the disappearance of a person is found. The Commission also has powers to order production of a person in respect of whom, it is suspected by the Commission to be held in illegal detention of some Law Enforcement/ Intelligence Agency.

61. The Commission receives cases from Human Rights Cell of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, civil society organizations, National Crisis Management Cell of the Ministry of Interior and directly from the families of the disappeared persons. On the direction of the Supreme Court of Pakistan or on its own, the Commission can file a First Incident Report in the concerned Police Station in cases of missing persons. The Home Secretary of the respective Province is directed to constitute Joint Investigation Teams (JIT) having representatives from the law enforcement agencies as well as Intelligence agencies. The

hearings in each case are held by the Commission at Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi and Quetta with the view to facilitate the families of alleged disappeared persons.

62. The Commission is headed by a retired judge of Supreme Court and has two members, i.e., former judge of Sindh High Court and retired Inspector General of Police. Necessary financial resources under a separate head from Ministry of Finance, and staff have also been provided to the Commission. A Sub Office has been established which is working at Karachi since October, 2014. It has been provided adequate resources by the relevant Government Ministries. The Commission, with the sources provided to it, also arranges for parallel hearings of cases at Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi.

63. The government pursues action against perpetrators who have been involved in enforced disappearances. The Commission has been receiving cooperation from all the stakeholders including the Federal/Provincial Government Departments, Intelligence and Law Enforcement Agencies. Consequently, the Commission has been able to dispose of 2416 cases from March, 2011 to 30 November 2016, out of which 1798 persons have been traced as either returned home or confined in jails/ Internment/Rehabilitation Centres on criminal/terrorism charges and the remaining 618 cases were closed either due to non-prosecution or after thorough investigation were found not being cases of enforced disappearances.

E. Administration of justice (recommendations 109 and 116)

64. A number of judicial reforms were introduced through National Judicial Policy (NJP) of 2009. The NJP suggests more than 300 concrete actions promising qualitative and quantitative improvements in justice service delivery that require continuous monitoring and evaluation for effective and sustainable implementation. During the last five years, the NJPMC met more than 19 times and discussed various issues related to administration of justice and took important decision for improving the quality of justice service delivery. While reasonable financial resources are allocated for the judiciary, efforts are underway to further increase budgetary allocations for the judiciary. The process of filling all vacant posts is ongoing, and backlog of cases is being gradually cleared.

65. The Government of Pakistan has established a statutory endowment "Access to Justice Development Fund" to overcome budgetary constraints faced by the judicial and legal sectors. The Law and Justice Commission has formed the District Legal Empowerment Committees (DLECs) and such Committees (DLECs) from July 2013 to June 2016 has been released an amount of RS.21.2 million in 106 districts across the country and out of which Rs.5.140 million have been utilized for provision of free legal aid to the needy and poor litigants. Total of 591 cases have been finalized through Committees (DLECs) across the country including 40 cases of women.

F. Combating terrorism (recommendation 165)

66. Pakistan's counterterrorism efforts are in compliance with its national and international human rights obligations. Terrorists have killed thousands of innocent civilians thus depriving them of their fundamental right to life. Our nation took a collective conscious decision and resolved to eliminate terrorism particularly after the 2014 terrorist killing of 150 school children in Peshawar. A comprehensive strategy, involving forceful law enforcement actions and targeted operations across the country was adopted. Despite external involvement in fomenting terrorism in Pakistan, operations Zarb-e-Azd and Radd-ul-Fasaad continue to produce encouraging results.

67. In December 2014, a National Action Plan to combat terrorism was devised. Eight of the 20 action points of NAP deal with extremism. Specific measures have been introduced, such as the law prohibiting hate speech, strict vigilance over proscribed organizations, and law for preventing abuse of cyberspace by terrorists and extremists and strict regulation for terrorism financing and its implementation.

68. National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) was established through NACTA Act 2013 to curb the menace of terrorism from the country. In line with Pakistan National Internal Security Policy 2014-2018, the Government endeavors to maintain stability and a secure law and order environment. The Policy provides for compensation and rehabilitation services to victims of terrorism, especially vulnerable individuals. It also works for capacity building and modernization of all pillars of the criminal justice system.

X. Rights of individuals and vulnerable groups

A. Rights of women (recommendations 21, 23, 25, 26, 35, 36, 40, 41, 51, 53, 61, 67, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 95, 96, 102, 103, 105 and 107)

69. The Government is committed to promote and protect rights of women by promoting their economic and political empowerment and eliminating violence and discrimination against them.

Legal measures

70. In order to curb harmful customary practices and eliminate violence and discrimination against women, a number of laws have been passed in the last few years including, among others, Anti-Rape (Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill and Anti-Honour Killings (Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill 2016; the Protection of Women from Harassment at Workplace Act 2010; Criminal Law Amendment Act 2011 (Prevention of Acid Crime); Prevention of Anti-Women Practice Act 2011; Protection of Women (Criminal Laws Amendment) Act 2006 and the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2004.

71. In October 2016, Anti-Rape (Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill and Anti-Honour Killings (Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill have been passed to tackle the issue of honour killings and to increase rape convictions by reforming existing laws. Under the new laws, relatives of victims would only be able to pardon the killer convicted of capital punishment in cases of honour killings, but the killer would still face a mandatory life sentence of 25 years.

72. The provinces have enacted their own laws for women protection and promotion of their rights which include, inter alia, The KP Elimination of Custom of Ghag Act, 2013.The Balochistan Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2014, The Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence Act 2016 and The Sindh Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act 2013.

Measures to eliminate violence and discrimination against women

- National Action Plan for Human Rights focuses on elimination of gender-based violence.
- National Commission on the Status of Women is playing an instrumental role in addressing the issue of violence against women.

- The Gender Crime Cell (GCC) of National Police Bureau gathers collates and analyses data on violence against women.
- To investigate cases of harassment at the workplace, Ombudsman offices at Federal and provincial level in Punjab and Sindh have also been established under the Harassment at the Workplace Act 2010.
- For providing speedy access to justice to women victims, 20 women police stations have been established.
- 26 women crisis centres have been established across the country to provide shelter and legal aid to women victims of violence.
- Draft National Policy on Ending Violence against Women and Girls has been prepared by the Ministry of Human Rights. It outlines prevention, response, protection and rehabilitation mechanism for gender based violence. It also establishes coordination and cooperation mechanisms among the relevant agencies with respect to the cases of gender-based violence.
- Ministry of Human Rights conducted research study which would lead to designing Men Engage Model for the elimination of gender-based violence.

Political and economic empowerment

- National Policy for Development and Empowerment of Women 2002 is already in place which aims to mainstream gender in overall development processes.
- The 11th Five Year Plan (2013–18) also focuses on Gender and Women Empowerment. Amount of Rs 2.7 billion has been allocated for women empowerment and their socio-economic development.
- In national assembly 60 seats, in Senate 17 and in provincial assemblies 17% seats are reserved for women. Women also contested the elections on general seats and seats reserved for minorities. Out of 1170 seats in all categories at national and provincial legislatures, 228 are women.
- 30% seats are reserved for electing women representatives at the three tiers of local bodies in line with the Beijing Platform for Action.
- Federal government has reserved 10% quota for women in Central Superior Services. Sindh has recently raised women's jobs quota from 5 % to 15 %. Punjab raised such quota to 15 % in 2013 with grant of 3 years' age relaxation.
- The Government's Decent Work Country Program includes a strategy and a plan of action to promote the creation of decent work with gender equality as a cross-cutting theme.
- In addition to various loans, under the programs launched by Zarai Taraqiati Bank Limited, large number of women farmers have been provided loans to avail agri credit schemes for agricultural sector.

B. Rights of children (recommendations 23, 24, 34, 40, 41, 54, 59, 71, 84, 91, 95, 104, 105, 107, 134 and 153)

73. A number of legal, policy as well as institutional measures have been taken for the protection of rights of children, including, among others:

- Criminal Law (Second Amendment) Act 2016 criminalizes the child pornography, exposing of children to sexually explicit material, cruelty to children, human trafficking within Pakistan and sexual abuse.
- The Juvenile Justice System Bill, 2017 aims to bring the Juvenile Justice System in conformity with international standards. It focuses on disposal of cases through diversion and social-reintegration of the child offenders.
- The Punjab Restriction on Employment of Children Ordinance, 2016 protects children and adolescents against any form of slavery or practices such as their sale and trafficking, debt bondage, forced or compulsory labour. Punjab Prohibition of Child Labor at Brick Kilins Act, 2016 prohibits and penalizes child labor in the brick kiln sector. KP Prohibition of Employment of Children Act, 2015 and the Sindh Prohibition of Employment of Children Act, 2017 bans engagement of children below the age of 14 years in labor.
- South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) is an apex body of the SAARC in which Pakistan plays a leading role in implementation of the agenda and work plan of the SAIEVAC to protect the rights of children.
- In line with the National Policy guidelines for vulnerable groups in disasters 2014, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has established Gender and Child Cell with the aim to mainstream gender and child protection issues and vulnerabilities in humanitarian response, crises management and disaster risk reduction initiatives.
- Federal Investigating Agency (FIA) cracked down, with the help of Police and Rangers, against elements and the organized groups involved in human trafficking. Consequently, in 2014-15, FIA has arrested 46 most wanted criminals and 1236 proclaimed offenders involved in human trafficking especially of children. FIA's 24-Hour Helpline (111-345-786) based in Islamabad was set up to improve reporting of trafficking and encourages survivors to seek rehabilitation services.
- All provinces have enacted child protection laws and have established child protection centers.

C. Rights of persons with disabilities (recommendations 91, 96)

74. As a party to CRPD, the Government has taken a number of initiatives for the enjoyment of the rights and equal participation of persons with disabilities in all walks of life. In this context:

- The National Policy for Persons with Disabilities was formulated in 2002, which recognized equality and non-discrimination as key elements.
- Vision 2025 and 11th 5-year plan focuses on rights of persons with disabilities.
- As an affirmative measure, 2 percent quota has been reserved in all academic institutions, as well as for employment in the country for the persons with disabilities.
- The Government of Punjab has not only increased quota from 2 to 3 percent but also launched the first and unique programme, 'Punjab Khidmat Card' to provide interest free loans, free technical training, rehabilitation and welfare and financial assistance to persons with disabilities. For this purpose, a sum of Rs 2 billion has been allocated for the first phase and 200,000 deserving persons with disabilities will benefit from the Programme.

- The Government of Sindh and KP have also introduced various policy initiatives. The Balochistan Persons with Disabilities Act, 2017 aims to provide better facilities to the persons with disabilities.
- Provincial Special Education Departments have been established under which special academic institutions are functioning across Pakistan.
- Accessible transportation (Metro Bus) has been introduced by the Government for the persons with disabilities. Pakistan International Airlines and Pakistan Railways give 50 % discount on fare for Persons with disabilities and 25% for the Attendants.
- In 2005, a law was passed which encouraged persons with disabilities to join public service. This ensured their participation in decision making at all levels in the public sector. Recently, Lahore High Court, in a landmark judgment of 11 January 2017 struck down the discriminatory provision of Civil Services Rule and allowed persons with disabilities to join all services on the basis of equality.
- At the international level, we have been supportive of disability-inclusive development agenda. We have worked with our partners for a focus by the international community on inclusive education and social inclusion in the 2030 Sustainable-Development Agenda. In order to ensure inclusion of children with disabilities, concerted efforts are being made to introduce an inclusive education system in Pakistan. In this context, a Project for Inclusive Education of Children with Disabilities has been introduced in some districts of the country.
- Our teams have participated in Paraolympics and have won medals. They are being trained for participation in a collaborative effort by a group of entrepreneurs and the government.

D. Rights of minorities (recommendations 41, 87, 96, 113, 121, 154, 155, 156, 157 and 158)

75. Pakistan's policy for the protection and promotion of human rights of minorities is in line with the vision of its founding father, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. From time to time, the Government has been taking administrative and policy measures to ensure that minorities enjoy equal rights as equal citizens of Pakistan. Through various measures, the Government has always strived to establish an inclusive society in which people of various faiths can live in harmony. These include:

- Since 2011, Pakistan celebrates 11th August as Minorities Day to promote understanding and harmony among all segments of society. On this day awareness building and inter-religious events are held all over the country which are projected through the media. Keeping up with this tradition, on 11 August 2015, the National Assembly and Senate on the occasion of Minorities Day passed unanimous resolutions expressing resolve to continue to play role for upholding the rights of minorities in Pakistan.
- There are 10 reserved seats for religious minorities in the National Assembly, 4 in the Senate and 23 in the Provincial Assemblies.
- Although the minorities constitute 3 percent of the population, the government has fixed a 5 percent quota of jobs for minorities in all federal services.
- The government has also made special budgetary allocation for grant of scholarships to deserving students from minority communities. Recently, the scholarship grant has been doubled.

- Minorities Affairs Departments are functioning at provincial level and their functions include, inter alia, to refer and recommend investigations and inquiries in case of any violation of minority rights, to formulate policies to foster equality, unity, peace and harmony among all citizens.
- Representation of minorities is assured in the local government institutions. These representatives participate in discussion and decision-making regarding the utilization of local development funds.
- Government has been providing compensation to victims belonging to minority communities. For instance, affectees of Joseph Colony, Lahore (109 persons) were provided financial help of Rs. 500,000/- each on 15 March 2013 and 24 April 2013.
- Pakistan's Independent judiciary and the legal community have taken wide ranging steps for upholding the rule of law and ensuring the protection of constitutional rights of all citizens including religious minorities. As an example, it may be underscored that no sentence of a lower court in blasphemy laws (which are non-discriminatory) has been upheld by the higher courts and no one has been punished under these laws.
- The Supreme Court has actively and successfully pursued cases related to alleged forced conversions of Christians and Hindus and discouraged it. In several cases, suo moto action has been taken by the Supreme Court.
- The landmark legislation, the Hindu Marriage Act, 2017 provides mechanism for the registration of Hindu marriages. Before the law, Hindu women in particular suffered and were unable to claim any legal rights such as inheritance from a deceased husband, re-marrying, divorce, separation or adoption.
- Ministry of Human Rights is also in the process of finalization of the Christian Marriage (Amendment) Bill and Divorce (Amendment) Bill.
- A successful sports festival was arranged by the Ministry of Human Rights on the occasion of Minorities' Day (11th August, 2016) at Islamabad. Its overall objective was awareness raising on Human Rights through sports. The sports festival included various sports competitions. The final event was held at the Sports Complex, Jinnah Stadium, and Islamabad in which around 150000 people participated.
- The Government of Balochistan has taken affirmative action for Minorities in the Province which may in some cases even exceed their proportionate share. The Government of Balochistan has fixed 5% job quota for Minorities. 03 seats of MPAs and 01 seat of MNA are reserved for Minorities against the projected population of minimum 0.227 million. A number of non-Muslims have risen to the higher posts in public offices such as the Justice of High Court of Balochistan.

E. Protection of human rights defenders and journalists(recommendations 75, 101, 110, 117, 118 and 119)

76. The Government considers civil society organizations and human rights defenders as partners in its endeavour to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms. By the very nature of their work, human rights defenders face challenges. From time to time, Government has been taking measures to provide them security and an enabling environment to carry out their important work. Whenever their work has been hampered by terrorists and extremists, special investigation teams or joint investigation teams have been formulated and they have been provided legal redress by courts.

77. The terrorists have also been attacking journalists The Government has taken several measures to safeguard them, including:

- Notified a Ministerial Media Security Committee with the mandate to suggest welfare measures to ensure safety of Journalists and Media Persons.
- The Government of Pakistan has initiated a new scheme (Life Insurance Policy for Media Persons) for the welfare of the journalists.
- A Hot Line Number (111-925-225) has been installed in Press Information Department so that journalists can inform the government about any potential threat to them or security related issues.
- Government is cautions of its responsibilities regarding expeditious hearing of cases, of martyred journalists and agrees that the court cases of affected journalists need to be heard by the anti-terror courts for quick decision.
- Proposal for Establishment of Endowment Fund to provide relief to the wounded and disabled journalists who have fallen victims of terrorism in the line of duty.
- Government's draft of Journalist Welfare and Protection bill – 2017 has been sent to Law and Justice Division for legal vetting on22 June 2017 which already has been circulated amongst All Pakistan Newspaper Society, Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors and Pakistan Broadcasters Association for input.
- Ministry of Information has constituted a media security committee to provide protection and safety to the media persons nationwide. Provincial Governments have been taken on board to strengthen this arrangement. Punjab Government has notified all DPOs (SP rank) to be the focal persons to ensure security of media persons.

XI. Challenges

78. In the pursuit of promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the Government continues to face challenges, including among others, combating terrorism, resource constraints, capacity building, awareness raising, effective enforcement of laws and policies, protection of vulnerable groups and natural disasters due to climate change, among others.

XII. National priorities and voluntary commitments

79. In order to further consolidate the progress made during recent years as well as to overcome challenges, Pakistan will take bold measures both in policy and legal reform and, where necessary, by undertaking effective enforcement of its existing legislation and policy on human rights in the next four years. Overall, we will further strengthen the holistic approach on human rights with primary focus of future interventions on:

- Implement the National Action Plan for human rights and National Policy Framework on Human Rights;
- To identify gaps in existing legislation, propose new legislation and review enforcement of existing legislation, in consultation with Provincial governments and other relevant stakeholders including civil society;
- Further enhance the operational effectiveness of national human rights institutions in accordance with their mandates through provision of adequate human and financial resources;

- Promotion of human rights education, and training and Capacity building of Government officials and other relevant stakeholders;
- Initiate policy and legal measures to safeguard rights of vulnerable groups;
- Introduce judicial reforms and provide access to justice to all citizens without any discrimination;
- Mainstream human rights in development planning by incorporating cross-cutting issues and promote right to development;
- Continue to submit all periodic reports to treaty bodies in compliance with its treaty obligations, and constructively engage during the reviews; and
- Continue to strengthen cooperation and engagement with the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights and Special Procedures.

Conclusion

80. As a democratic and progressive state, Pakistan is firmly resolved to uphold, promote and safeguard universal human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. This is manifested in the high-level political commitment, and policies and programmes of the Government on human rights, and Pakistan's longstanding and continued desire and readiness to work with the international community to strengthen multilateral cooperation and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights. We consider the UPR as a unique cooperative mechanism to identify human rights challenges and to make tangible recommendations in a non-politicized and non-discriminatory manner and we would continue our constructive engagement with this mechanism. With strengthened democracy, independent judiciary, free media and active civil society, Pakistan is confident of continuing the path of further improvement, and promotion and protection of human rights of all its citizens.

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Compilation on Pakistan

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies and special procedures and other relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies[1]

2. A number of treaty bodies, special procedure mandate holders and United Nations entities recommended that Pakistan ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[2] the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[3] to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[5] and to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure,[6] the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol,[7] the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[8] the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[9] the International Labour Organization (ILO) Home Work Convention, 1996 (No. 177)[10] and Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189),[11] the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[12] and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention against Discrimination in Education.[13]

3. Pakistan has contributed annually to OHCHR since 2012.[14]

4. In 2016, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed deep regret at the failure of the authorities to grant his Office access to Pakistan-administered

Kashmir, given grave concerns about allegations of serious human rights violations, including on the excessive use of force.[47]

III. National human rights framework[48]

5. The United Nations country team noted the establishment of the National Commission for Human Rights in 2015 and the adoption of the National Human Rights Action Plan in 2016.[49] The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Human Rights Committee recommended that Pakistan ensure that the mandate and responsibilities of the Commission were in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and allocate sufficient funding for its effective functioning.[50]

6. The Committee against Torture was deeply concerned that the Chairman of the Commission had not received the required authorization to travel and had therefore been unable to participate in a briefing with the Committee just prior to the interactive dialogue, despite the invitation issued. It was also deeply concerned that the Commission was unable to inquire into the practices of the intelligence agencies and was not authorized to undertake full inquiries into reports of human rights violations by members of the armed forces.[51] The Human Rights Committee recommended that Pakistan strengthen the power of the Commission and ensure that it was able to investigate all allegations of violations of rights under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, committed by any official entity.[52]

7. The United Nations country team was concerned about the weak capacity of the Ministry of Human Rights to collect and analyse data and monitor the implementation of recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms.[53] It was also concerned about the weak capacities and overlapping and vague mandates of human rights institutions established at the provincial level by devolution of powers pursuant to the eighteenth Constitutional amendment.[54]

8. Concerning recommendations on human rights education from the previous universal periodic review, UNESCO stated that there was no evidence that initiatives had been taken to develop educational courses on human rights.[55]

IV. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Cross-cutting issues

1. Equality and non-discrimination[56]

9. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended the revision of articles 25 to 27 of the Constitution with a view to ensuring prohibition of discrimination on all grounds, including colour, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity or other status. It also recommended that comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation be adopted.[57] The Human Rights Committee made a similar recommendation.[58]

10. Several treaty bodies recommended that Pakistan end discrimination against scheduled castes (Dalits), particularly in access to employment and education.[59]

11. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination remained deeply concerned at the reportedly high incidence of hate crimes against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, particularly Hazaras, Christian Dalits, Hindu Dalits and Ahmadis, and the absence of investigation and prosecution.[60] The Committee against Torture was concerned about reports of violence against members of Shia, Christian and Ahmadiyya communities and individuals accused of blasphemy.[61]

12. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recommended that Pakistan end violence against minority groups, combat the segregation of members of those communities and ensure that they enjoyed their rights to employment, health care, education and other basic services.[37]

13. The United Nations country team noted with concern that HIV high-risk populations continued to face discrimination in accessing sexual and reproductive health information and services.[38]

14. The United Nations country team welcomed the announcement, following a court ruling, that transgender persons would be counted for the first time in the national census from March 2017.[39] The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan decriminalize same-sex relations between consenting adults and take the measures necessary to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.[40] The Human Rights Committee made a similar recommendation.[41]

2. Development, the environment, and business and human rights[42]

15. The United Nations country team deemed it crucial that Pakistan reduce population vulnerability to the impacts of floods and droughts.[43]

16. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Pakistan conduct an assessment of the effects of polluted air, water and soil on children's health, as a basis for designing a well-resourced strategy to remedy the situation.[44]

3. Human rights and counter-terrorism[45]

17. While acknowledging the security challenges faced by Pakistan, the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances recalled that no circumstances whatsoever could be invoked to justify enforced disappearances.[46] It reiterated that "preventive detention" regimes and rules that allowed suspects to be arrested without a warrant should be scrutinized.[47]

18. The Committee against Torture was deeply concerned that counter-terrorism legislation, particularly the Anti-terrorism Act of 1997, eliminated legal safeguards against torture. The legislation allowed security agencies and civil armed forces to detain any person suspected of committing an offence under the Act for up to three months without review or the possibility of lodging a habeas petition. It also allowed the detention without trial for up to a year of any person suspected of being involved in the activities of a proscribed organization.[48]

19. The Committee was deeply concerned that Pakistan had authorized military courts to try civilians for terrorism-related offences, most recently in 2015[49] under the twenty-third amendment to the Constitution.[50] The Human Rights Committee recommended that legislation relating to the military courts be reviewed in order to abrogate their jurisdiction over civilians and their authority to impose the death penalty.[51]

20. The Committee against Torture was concerned about the very broad powers given to the Army to detain people suspected of involvement in terrorist activities without charge or judicial supervision in internment centres under the Actions (in Aid of Civil Power) Regulation of 2011.[52]

21. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was gravely concerned about the large number of children killed as a result of counter-terrorism activities and acts of terrorism, including the killing of 142 children in an attack on a school in Peshawar in 2014.[53] The High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the right to education also condemned in the strongest terms the attack on defenceless children at the mixed school in Peshawar.[54]

22. Following his visit to Pakistan, in 2013, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism indicated that Pakistan had not consented to the use of drones on its territory and that it considered the drone campaign to be counter-productive and to be radicalizing a whole new generation, thereby perpetuating the problem of terrorism in the region.[55]

B. Civil and political rights

1. Right to life, liberty and security of person[49]

23. In December 2014, the High Commissioner for Human Rights expressed deep regret at the lifting of the moratorium on the death penalty, which had been put in place in 2008, and urged Pakistan to re-impose the moratorium.[50] A group of special rapporteurs also warned against the resumption of the death penalty for terrorists acts.[51]

24. The High Commissioner noted that more than 8,000 people remained on death row in Pakistan, of whom approximately 800 had reportedly been juveniles at the time of the commission of the offence. The moratorium had initially been lifted for terrorism-related crimes only but, in March 2015, it was lifted generally.[52]

25. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was seriously alarmed by reports that several individuals had been executed for offences committed when they were under the age of 18 years or when the age of the individual was contested.[53] The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and a group of special rapporteurs also condemned the execution of juveniles.[54]

26. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Pakistan reinstate the moratorium on the death penalty and consider abolishing the death penalty. Should the death penalty be maintained, Pakistan should take all measures necessary to ensure that it was used only for the "most serious crimes" involving intentional killing, that it was never mandatory, that pardon or commutation of the sentence was available in all cases, that it was never imposed in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including in the absence of fair trial procedures, and that it should not be imposed by military courts, in particular in respect to civilians, and that no person who was below the age of 18 years at the time of the commission of an offence was subjected to the death penalty.[55]

27. In 2016, the Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances regretted that most of the recommendations it had made following its visit in 2012 had not been implemented. It reiterated its grave concern about the widespread practice of enforced disappearances, especially in Sindh.[56]

28. The Working Group also regretted that, according to information received, existing domestic legislation was considered to be adequate to cover the crime of enforced disappearances, despite a previous commitment made by Pakistan in the context of the 2012 review to specifically criminalize enforced disappearance. It urged Pakistan to swiftly criminalize enforced disappearance.[57]

29. The Committee against Torture was deeply concerned at consistent reports about the widespread use of torture by the police with a view to obtaining confessions from persons in custody.[58] It recommended that Pakistan take measures to ensure that all police officers were prohibited by law from engaging in torture and ensure that those engaged in torture were prosecuted and punished.[59] The Committee urged Pakistan to take measures to ensure that persons who filed complaints concerning conduct amounting to torture, as well as witnesses to torture and their families, were protected against harassment and intimidation in retaliation.[60]

30. The Committee urged Pakistan to take the necessary measures to incorporate into its legislation a specific definition of torture that covered all the elements contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture.[61]

31. The Committee against Torture and the Human Rights Committee were concerned at reports of severe overcrowding and extremely poor conditions in places of detention. Both Committees were also concerned at reports that a high proportion of the prison population consisted of pretrial detainees and that juvenile prisoners were kept together with adults.[62] The United Nations country team was concerned that the majority of legislation relating to prisons, particularly the Prison Act 1894, were out of date.[63]

32. The Committee against Torture was concerned about reports that legal safeguards for persons deprived of liberty were not respected in practice. It was also concerned at the lack of effective implementation of the right to request and receive an independent medical

examination promptly and that not all detentions were recorded promptly in a comprehensive central detention register that was accurate and accessible to the family members of detainees.[54]

2. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law[55]

33. The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers recommended that Pakistan urgently improve the formal justice system in order to discourage recourse to informal "justice" systems. The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and the application of the Constitution should be extended to all territories, including the Federally Administered Tribal Areas.[56]

34. The Committee against Torture was concerned about reported discrepancies in the administration of justice, including with respect to the jurisdiction of the Federal Sharia Court.[57] The Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers recommended that a genuine discussion on the independence, utility and functions of the Federal Sharia Court be held with a view to considering its possible elimination, and that clear criteria guiding *suo moto* procedures be adopted by the Supreme Court.[58]

35. The Special Rapporteur also recommended that the Government implement measures to ban informal justice systems, such as jirgas and panchayats.[59]

36. The Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances remained concerned that the Constitution still legally barred the High Courts from hearing cases relating to the armed forces. It recommended that Pakistan remove that limitation.[60]

37. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination remained concerned that persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, refugees and the scheduled castes (Dalits) had limited access to justice owing to high legal fees and the lack of clarity on the criteria and procedure for applying for the free legal assistance programmes provided for in the 2016 National Human Rights Action Plan.[61]

38. The Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances was concerned that no comprehensive mechanism for full and prompt reparation, including social and medical assistance to relatives of disappeared persons, had been established.[62] It remained concerned about reported cases of threats, reprisals and harassment against families of disappeared persons and human rights defenders, including lawyers who worked on issues relating to enforced disappearance.[63]

39. UNESCO urged Pakistan to continue to investigate the cases of killed journalists, and to voluntarily report to it on the status of the judicial follow-up.[64]

40. The Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances observed that there was a climate of impunity with regard to enforced disappearances and that the authorities were not sufficiently dedicated to investigating those cases and hold the perpetrators accountable.[65]

41. The Committee against Torture was concerned about the possibility provided in national legislation for retroactive immunity for acts of torture committed by members of the military and paramilitary forces under the provisions of the Actions (in Aid of Civil Power) Regulation of 2011 and the 2015 amendment to the Army Act. It was also concerned by the exclusive jurisdiction of the military justice system over soldiers accused of offences against civilians.[66]

42. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at the prevalence of corruption and the magnitude of corruption cases involving high-level officials.[67]

3. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[68]

43. Several special rapporteurs called on Pakistan to adopt urgent measures to stop faith-based killings and ensure the security of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, whose faith had been outlawed in the country. The special rapporteurs expressed concern that such violence was fuelled by existing blasphemy legislation particularly targeting minorities.[69] The Human Rights Committee expressed concern at the blasphemy laws that carried severe

penalties, including the mandatory death penalty, and reportedly had a discriminatory effect, particularly on Ahmadis. It was also concerned at the very high number of blasphemy cases based on false accusations and at violence against those accused of blasphemy.[43]

44. The same Committee was concerned that defamation was criminalized and could be punished with imprisonment, and at reports that criminal laws were improperly enforced against journalists and dissenting voices.[44] UNESCO recommended that Pakistan decriminalize defamation and place it within a civil code.[45]

45. The United Nations country team was concerned that the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act of 2016 could interfere with legitimate expressions of religion and belief, and with privacy.[46] The Human Rights Committee recommended that Pakistan review the Act and establish independent oversight mechanisms for its implementation, including judicial review of surveillance activity.[47] Prior to its adoption, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression had stated that the bill, as a whole, raised several concerns owing to the vagueness of its provisions that would criminalize legitimate forms of expression.[48]

46. The Human Rights Committee was concerned at reports on the way in which the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority exercised its powers with regard to the content of media outlets, including suspending over 20 programmes in the previous four years. It was also concerned at the lack of clarity on procedural safeguards and oversight mechanisms to ensure that the Regulatory Authority exercised its powers consistent with the principle of freedom of expression.[49]

47. The same Committee was also concerned that the minority quota in the national and provincial parliaments and in public services was applied only to religious minorities. It was further concerned at the removal of Ahmadis from the general electoral list and their registration on a separate voting list, the low level of exercise of the right to vote by women and the continued obstacles to effective access to voting for persons with disabilities and persons belonging to minorities, including gypsies.[50]

4. Prohibition of all forms of slavery[51]

48. Several treaty bodies were concerned that, despite the adoption of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act of 1992, bonded labour practices persisted, particularly in the brick kiln and textile industries and among the scheduled castes (Dalits).[52]

49. The ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations expressed concern at the high number of working children who were under the minimum age for work. It urged Pakistan to strengthen efforts to improve the situation and to combat and eliminate both internal and cross-border trafficking of persons under 18.[53]

50. The United Nations country team urged Pakistan to amend the existing framework on trafficking, including the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance (2002) and the Prevention and Control of Trafficking Rules (2004), in order to cover various forms of trafficking, such as for prostitution, forced marriage and bonded labour, in Pakistan.[54]

51. The Committee against Torture urged Pakistan to take measures to eradicate and combat human trafficking and forced labour; investigate all allegations of trafficking and forced labour and ensure that perpetrators were prosecuted; establish mechanisms for the systematic and regular monitoring of workplaces in the formal and informal sectors in order to prevent forced and bonded labour; and ensure that victims of trafficking obtained redress.[55]

5. Right to privacy and family life[56]

52. The United Nations country team welcomed the approval of the Hindu Marriage Bill (2016). It encouraged Pakistan to ensure the immediate and effective implementation of the Bill, as well as of the Christian Marriages Amendment Bill (2014) and the Divorce Amendment Bill (for Christians) (2014).[57]

53. The United Nations country team noted that the Age of Marriage Bill for Girls, which was intended to increase the marriageable age from 16 to 18 years, had been rejected at the federal level and in two provinces, following the objection of the Council of Islamic Ideology.[95] Several treaty bodies were concerned that the minimum age for marriage for girls varied across provinces.[96]

C. Economic, social and cultural rights

1. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work[97]

54. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at the lack of comprehensive legislative or policy frameworks on labour protection.[98]

55. The same Committee was also concerned that the minimum wages did not cover all workers and that the minimum wage level varied among provinces. It was further concerned that the minimum wage was not sufficient to provide workers and their families with a decent living and that the level of compliance with the set minimum wage was low.[99]

56. The Committee was concerned at the high frequency and the devastating scale of occupational accidents and the high number of cases of occupational diseases. It was also concerned at the absence of a framework legislation on occupational safety and health and at the extremely small number of labour inspectors.[100]

2. Right to social security[101]

57. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan take all the measures necessary to improve its social security schemes with a view to progressively covering all workers in the country and providing a sufficient level of benefits so that they could enjoy an adequate standard of living. It also recommended that Pakistan establish a nationally defined social protection floor, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.[102]

3. Right to an adequate standard of living[103]

58. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned at the very high proportion of persons still living in poverty, especially in certain regions such as Sindh, the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Balochistan.[104]

59. The same Committee was also concerned at the increasing trend of landownership concentration, which resulted in a large number of landless farmers and small-scale land holders living in poverty and exposed landless farmers to severe exploitation through feudal tenant arrangements.[105]

60. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan take all the steps necessary to address persisting acute hunger and malnutrition and, in particular, the critical nutritional needs of infants and children.[106]

61. The same Committee was concerned at the acute shortage of adequate housing and the lack of financing programmes for low-income families and at the high number of persons living without legal tenure in urban informal settlements with limited access to basic services. It was also concerned that people without secure tenure in urban areas and people living in areas where development projects were being carried out were often subject to forced evictions.[107]

62. The United Nations country team noted that 27.2 million Pakistanis still lacked access to safe water and that poor watershed management had serious repercussions for public health, sanitation and access to food, which primarily affected marginalized communities.[108] The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan intensify efforts to increase access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities.[109]

4. Right to health[110]

63. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan make every effort to increase public expenditure in the health sector, further expand the coverage of the National Health Insurance Programme, strengthen its public health system with a view to providing free, quality, basic health services to all, including disadvantaged and marginalized individuals, and reduce the maternal, infant and under-5 mortality rates.[111]

64. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned about the high maternal mortality rate, the lack of adequate access by women to family planning services, including contraceptives, restrictive abortion laws and the lack of adequate post-abortion care services.[112] The United Nations country team recommended that Pakistan ensure women's rights over their reproductive health through an enabling policy, improved access to quality services and improved information dissemination for a better understanding of those rights.[113]

65. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned about the inadequacy of health-care services, especially in rural areas. It was also concerned about the child mortality rate and the increase in the rate of neonatal mortality, the increasing rate of polio infection, especially in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, owing to the ban on vaccinations imposed by the Taliban and the killings of personnel providing vaccines for children, and at large-scale and frequent outbreaks of measles.[114]

5. Right to education[115]

66. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan intensify efforts to ensure that all children enjoyed, without discrimination, the right to education, which would empower children, particularly disadvantaged and marginalized children, and enable them to lift themselves out of poverty.[116] The United Nations country team made a similar recommendation.[117]

67. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights also recommended that Pakistan increase enrolment rates at all levels of education, but particularly the primary level, with special attention to girls, children living in rural areas and children from low-income families; reduce the number of out-of-school children, including through coordination with child labour policies; improve school facilities, particularly water, sanitation and electricity; secure a sufficient number of qualified teachers and improve both the quality and quantity of learning materials; increase educational programmes that were appropriate and adequate to the needs of illiterate adults, paying special attention to women; enhance security at schools; provide an alternative space for education in case of an attack; and immediately and completely ban the use of schools by military forces.[118]

68. UNESCO noted a significant discrepancy between the quality of education provided in public and in private schools.[119] The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended progressively eliminating social segregation in the education system by ensuring an education of equal quality to all children in all public and private schools.[120]

69. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Human Rights Committee were concerned that some school curricula and textbooks, including those of madrasas, had content that had the potential to incite hatred against religious and ethnic minorities.[121]

D. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women[122]

70. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned about the existence of multiple legal systems regarding marriage and family relations and their discriminatory impact on women. It was concerned that, under Muslim law, women had unequal rights with respect to inheritance, dissolution of marriage and its economic consequences, and guardianship of children.[123]

71. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination urged Pakistan to end the forced conversion and forced marriage of Christian and Hindu Dalit women.[124]

72. The Committee on the Rights of the Child remained extremely concerned about serious discrimination against girls and the persistent gender disparity in infant mortality rates and school enrolment rates, the persistence of early marriage and the exchanges of girls for debt settlement, as well as domestic violence targeting girls.[125]

73. The United Nations country team was concerned about the continuing lack of a standardized, disaggregated data collection mechanism on violence against women.[126]

74. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was concerned about the escalation of violent threats and attacks by non-State actors and military counter-operations and the negative impact of that situation on women and girls.[127]

75. The Committee expressed deep concern at reports of ongoing violent attacks and public threats against female students, teachers and professors by various non-State actors, and at the escalating number of attacks on educational institutions, in particular a large number of girls-only schools.[128]

76. The same Committee expressed concern at the high prevalence of domestic violence and marital rape and at the absence of clear legislation criminalizing such acts.[129]

77. The Committee on the Rights of the Child expressed serious concern about the increasing number of infanticides targeting girls.[130]

78. While noting the adoption of the Anti-rape Law (criminal amendment bill) in 2016 and the Anti-honour Killing Law (criminal amendment bill), the Committee against Torture was concerned about the reportedly high level of violence against women, including murder, rape, acid crimes, kidnappings, domestic violence and so-called "honour" killings. It was also concerned about the extremely low conviction rates for those crimes and at reports that parallel justice systems (jirgas and panchayats) had sentenced women to violent punishment or even death, including by stoning, and had provided lenient punishments for perpetrators of so-called "honour" crimes and other cases of serious gender-based violence.[131] The Human Rights Committee recommended that Pakistan effectively enforce anti-honour killings laws, anti-rape laws and other relevant laws criminalizing violence against women and domestic violence; enforce the prohibition of the application of *qisas* and *diyat* laws to so-called "honour"-related crimes; and continue to regulate and supervise jirgas.[132]

79. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women reiterated its concern at the low participation of women in the judiciary of the superior courts and the total absence of women judges in the Supreme Court.[133] The United Nations country team recommended that Pakistan enact in a timely manner the recent amendment to the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act of 1997, which established a 25 per cent quota for women judges in the Supreme Court.[134]

80. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women called upon Pakistan to amend relevant laws in order to increase the quotas allocated for women in the National and Provincial Assemblies and in the Senate to a minimum of 33 per cent, in accordance with international standards.[135]

81. The same Committee called upon Pakistan to establish a procedure for filing complaints in cases of forced disenfranchisement of women and to adopt the draft bill advocating re-polling in areas where less than 10 per cent of women's votes had been polled.[136]

82. The Committee was concerned about the low participation of women in the formal sector, job segregation and the concentration of women in low-paid and low-skilled jobs, and the widening pay gap and lack of legal provisions guaranteeing the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.[137] It was concerned that women in the informal sector were not recognized in the existing labour legislation as workers and did not have access to social security and benefits.[138]

83. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Pakistan improve the literacy rate of women and girls, reduce and prevent dropout among girls and formulate re-entry policies enabling young women to return to school after pregnancy.[139]

2. Children[140]

84. The Committee on the Rights of the Child reiterated its previous recommendation that Pakistan combat and prevent discrimination and negative societal attitudes and mobilize political, religious and community leaders to support efforts to eradicate traditional practices and attitudes that discriminated against children belonging to religious or other minority groups, children with disabilities, children living in poverty, children from Dalit communities, children living in rural or remote areas and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender children.[141]

85. The same Committee remained concerned that only approximately 30 per cent of children were registered at birth. It was particularly concerned about the complicated procedures and high fees for birth registration and the lack of effective measures to ensure the birth registration of children belonging to marginalized and disadvantaged groups, including children born out of wedlock, and refugee and internally displaced children.[142]

86. The Committee deplored the reports of systematic and widespread torture and ill-treatment of children in police stations and prisons, including reports of torture of children by the Faisalabad district police.[143]

87. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Pakistan review its laws and practices and exempt all children below the age of 18 years from punishment for *hudood* offences, in particular penalties such as amputation, whipping and stoning.[144]

88. The same Committee was seriously concerned about the large number of children falling victim to sexual abuse, exploitation, rape and abduction, including by the Taliban, in particular in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkwa.[145]

89. The United Nations country team encouraged Pakistan to urgently implement the provisions of the 2000 Juvenile Justice System Ordinance, including the establishment of juvenile courts.[146]

90. The Committee on the Rights of the Child was gravely concerned that children continued to be targeted for recruitment and training by armed groups for military activities.[147]

3. Persons with disabilities[148]

91. A group of special rapporteurs urged Pakistan to halt the execution of persons with disabilities.[149] The Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities stated that Pakistan was bound to respect the right to life and the inherent dignity of detainees with disabilities, and must provide reasonable accommodation in detention.[150] The Human Rights Committee recommended that no one with serious psychosocial or intellectual disabilities be executed or sentenced to death. It also recommended that Pakistan establish an independent mechanism to review all cases and provide credible evidence that prisoners facing death had such disabilities.[151]

92. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan take the necessary steps to bring the definition of disability in its legislation in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to include in its legislation denial of reasonable accommodation as a ground of discrimination.[152]

93. The same Committee also recommended that Pakistan develop a legislative and policy framework on inclusive education for children with disabilities and provide such education.[153]

4. Minorities[154]

94. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Pakistan take urgent legal measures to recognize the status of minorities other than religious

minorities, including racial, ethnic and linguistic minorities, in order to enable all persons belonging to minorities to enjoy their relevant rights and benefit from the policies and programmes designed for the protection of minority groups.[155]

5. Refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons[156]

95. The Human Rights Committee welcomed the adoption of the Comprehensive Policy on the Voluntary Repatriation and Management of Afghan Refugees and the plan to conduct registration of undocumented Afghans, in August 2017. However, the Committee remained concerned at the delay in the adoption of a national refugee law and at reports that Afghans, particularly those without documents, were exposed to arbitrary arrests, harassment and threats of deportation by the police and security forces.[157] Several treaty bodies raised similar concerns.[158] The Committee against Torture recommended that Pakistan amend its legislation, particularly the Extradition Act of 1972 and the Foreigners Order of 1951, and procedures to fully comply with the principle of non-refoulement.[159]

96. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was concerned that access by unregistered refugees to public services had been restricted and about their living conditions in refugee camps and urban informal settlements.[160] The United Nations country team recommended that Pakistan fully implement the Constitutional right to free and compulsory education to all children regardless of their national identity.[161]

97. In March 2013, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons condemned the vicious attack on the Jalozai camp for internally displaced persons and stressed the humanitarian nature of the camp.[162] Several treaty bodies and the United Nations country team encouraged Pakistan to ensure adequate protection and assistance for internally displaced persons, particularly women and children.[163]

Notes

1 Tables containing information on the scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies for Pakistan will be available at www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/PKindex.aspx

2 For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.1-122.12 and 122.15.

3 See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 44, CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 41, CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 83, E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 90, A/HRC/22/45/Add.2, para. 89 (a), and A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 30.

4 See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 89, and CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 18.

5 See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 39, and United Nations country team submission to the universal periodic review of Pakistan, para. 54.

6 See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 27 (c).

7 See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 82.

8 See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 36, CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 38, and CRC/PAK/CO/6, para. 66.

9 See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 35 (c), CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 36, and CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 66.

10 See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 24, and country team submission, para. 18.

11 See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 30.

12 Ibid. See also country team submission, para. 6.

13 See A/HRC/22/45/Add.2, para. 89 (b).

14 UNESCO submission to the universal periodic review of Pakistan, p. 6.

15 OHCHR, "Donor profiles" in: *OHCHR Report 2012*, p. 167, *OHCHR Report 2013*, p. 182, *OHCHR Report 2014*, p. 116, *OHCHR Report 2015*, p. 113 and *OHCHR Report 2016*, p. 132.

16 See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20382&LangID=E/. See also www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20638&LangID=E.

17 For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.16-122.17, 122.42-122.50, 122.52, 122.55, 122.62-122.65, 122.69, 122.73, 122.94 and 122.152.

18 See country team submission, para. 7.

19 See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 12, and CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 10.

20 See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 20, A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 34, and country team submission, para. 7.

21 See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 10.

[22] See country team submission, para. 10.
[23] Ibid., para. 8.
[24] See UNESCO submission, para. 19.
[25] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.18, 122.38, 122.96, 122.122, 122.149 and 122.154.
[26] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 20.
[27] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 12.
[28] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 32, CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 19, and E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 32.
[29] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, paras. 15-16.
[30] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 36.
[31] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 20.
[32] See country team submission, para. 48.
[33] Ibid., para. 12.
[34] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 22.
[35] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 12.
[36] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.54 and 122.57.
[37] See country team submission, para. 42.
[38] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, paras. 57-58.
[39] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.165.
[40] See A/HRC/22/45/Add.2, para. 90, and A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 28.
[41] See A/HRC/22/45/Add.2, para. 91(a), and A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 28.
[42] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 12. See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, paras. 21-22.
[43] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 12.
[44] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 24.
[45] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 12.
[46] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 22, and www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15430&LangID=E.
[47] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15427&LangID=E and www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15433&LangID=E.
[48] See http://newsarchive.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13146&LangID=E and http://newsarchive.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13148&LangID=E.
[49] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.19-122.20, 122.98-122.100, 122.111, 122.114-122.115 and 123.1.
[50] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15447&LangID=E.
[51] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15452&LangID=E.
[52] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16068&LangID=E.
[53] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 24. See also CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 40.
[54] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=15729&LangID=E, www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16290&LangID=E and www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16560&LangID=E.
[55] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 18.
[56] See A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, paras. 23-24.
[57] Ibid., para. 29. See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 20.
[58] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 6.
[59] Ibid., paras. 7 (a)-(c).
[60] Ibid., paras. 9 (a). See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 19.
[61] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 15.
[62] Ibid., para. 28. See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 27.
[63] See country team submission, p. 17.
[64] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 16. See also A/HRC/33/51/Add.1, para. 26.
[65] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.56, 122.76, 122.101, 122.109-122.110 and 122.116-122.120.
[66] See A/HRC/23/43/Add.2, para. 102. See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, paras. 31-32.
[67] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 18. See also CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 15.
[68] See A/HRC/23/43/Add.2, paras. 104-105.
[69] Ibid., paras. 125-127.
[70] See A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 33.
[71] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 23.
[72] See A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 36.
[73] Ibid., para. 26.
[74] See UNESCO submission, para. 23. See also country team submission, para. 25.

[75] See A/HRC/33/51/Add.7, para. 25.
[76] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 10. See also A/HRC/22/45/Add.2, para. 97.
[77] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 17.
[78] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.14, 122.27-122.33, 122.75, 122.112, 122.121, 122.123-122.127 and 122.155-122.158.
[79] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=14658&LangID=E.
[80] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 33. See also CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 21, and CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, paras. 30-31.
[81] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 37.
[82] See UNESCO submission, para. 22.
[83] See country team submission, para. 24.
[84] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 36.
[85] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16879&LangID=E.
[86] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 37.
[87] Ibid., para. 47.
[88] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.39, 122.54, 122.60, 122.95 and 122.105-122.106.
[89] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, paras. 27-28, and E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 45.
[90] See www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:3112812:YES.
[91] See country team submission, para. 18.
[92] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 33.
[93] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.38, 122.40, 122.96, 122.102-122.103 and 122.154.
[94] See country team submission, para. 15.
[95] Ibid., para. 62.
[96] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 55, CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 37, CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 16, and CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 41.
[97] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.129 and 122.163.
[98] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 41.
[99] Ibid., para. 43.
[100] Ibid., para. 47.
[101] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.58, 122.140 and 122.163.
[102] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 52.
[103] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.36, 122.58, 122.74, 122.128-122.133, 122.135, 122.160-122.161 and 122.163-122.164.
[104] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 65.
[105] Ibid., para. 67.
[106] Ibid., para. 70. See also CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, paras. 22, 47 (d) and 48 (e).
[107] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 71. See also www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16984&LangID=E.
[108] See country team submission, para. 42.
[109] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 74. See also CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 47 (d).
[110] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.68, 122.92, 122.136-122.138 and 122.162.
[111] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 76.
[112] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 31. See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, paras. 15-16.
[113] See country team submission, para. 49.
[114] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 47.
[115] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.68, 122.135, 122.140-122.148, 122.150 and 122.153.
[116] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 80.
[117] See country team submission, para. 58.
[118] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 80. See also CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 62, and UNESCO submission, p. 7.
[119] See UNESCO submission, para. 21.
[120] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 82 (e).
[121] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, paras. 17-18, and CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 33. See also E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, paras. 83-84, CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, paras. 30 and 63, and UNESCO submission, para. 19.
[122] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.21-122.23, 122.25-122.26, 122.35, 122.37, 122.40-122.41, 122.51, 122.53, 122.61, 122.66-122.68, 122.82-122.90, 122.93, 122.95, 122.97, 122.102-122.103, 122.107-122.108 and 122.139.

[123] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 37. See also E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 33, and CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, paras. 18-19.
[124] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 32. See also CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, paras. 23 and 38.
[125] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 18.
[126] See country team submission, para. 55.
[127] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 13.
[128] Ibid., para. 27. See also CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 61.
[129] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, paras. 21-22.
[130] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 22.
[131] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 30. See also country team submission, para. 60, and CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 15.
[132] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 14.
[133] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, paras. 25-26. See also A/HRC/23/43/Add.2, paras. 76-81.
[134] See country team submission, para. 28. See also CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 18.
[135] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, paras. 25-26.
[136] Ibid., para. 26.
[137] Ibid., para. 29.
[138] Ibid., paras. 29-30. See also E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, paras. 37-38.
[139] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 28 (a). See also CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, paras. 61-62.
[140] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.23-122.24, 122.34, 122.40, 122.59, 122.71-122.72, 122.104, 122.134 and 122.151.
[141] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 19.
[142] Ibid., para. 28. See also CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, paras. 43-44.
[143] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 32.
[144] Ibid., paras. 32-33.
[145] Ibid., para. 36.
[146] See country team submission, para. 30.
[147] See CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 69.
[148] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.91.
[149] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=20593&LangID=E.
[150] See www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=16275&LangID=E.
[151] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 18 (c).
[152] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 24.
[153] Ibid., para. 80 (j).
[154] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.87, 122.151, 122.154 and 122.158.
[155] See E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 30.
[156] For the relevant recommendation, see A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.59.
[157] See CCPR/C/PAK/CO/1, para. 45.
[158] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, para. 38.
[159] See CAT/C/PAK/CO/1, paras. 34-35 (a).
[160] See CERD/C/PAK/CO/21-23, paras. 37-38.
[161] See country team submission, para. 69.
[162] See http://newsarchive.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13189&LangID=E.
[163] See CEDAW/C/PAK/CO/4, para. 36; CRC/C/PAK/CO/5, para. 67; E/C.12/PAK/CO/1, para. 28; and country team submission, para. 70.

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Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Pakistan*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 43 stakeholders' submissions to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies

2. A number of submissions recommended that Pakistan become a party to ICCPR-OP1, ICCPR-OP2, OP-ICESCR, ICPPED, ICRMW, OP-CAT, OP-CRC-IC, OP-CEDAW, OP-CRPD, the Rome Statute of the ICC, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children, and ILO Convention No. 189 on domestic workers.[1]

3. Amnesty International (AI), International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), National Commission for Human Rights Pakistan (NCHR), Scholars at Risk Network (SAR), Joint Submission 12 (JS12) and Joint Submission (JS17) recommended that Pakistan extend a standing invitation to special procedures.[2] Joint Submission (JS11) recommended that

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Pakistan prioritise country visits by Special Procedures with pending requests and ensuring timely reporting to Treaty Bodies and responses to communications from Special Procedures, and implementation of recommendations made by these mechanisms.[6]

B. National human rights framework[7]

4. Joint Submission 8 (JS8) stated that Pakistan had developed no proper follow up plans for implementation of previous UPR recommendations.[8] NCHR recommended taking necessary measures to disseminate them and ensuring their effective implementation through an independent monitoring body.[9]

5. JUBILEE noted that, in May 2015, the Government had authorized NCHR to conduct inquiries on human rights violations, however, had not provided it with budget.[10] Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW), International Human Rights Committee (IHRC7), Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), and Joint Submission (JS20) expressed concern about the limited mandate of the Commission to investigate human rights violations involving the armed forces and security agencies.[11]

6. NCHR and JS8 recommended establishing the long awaited independent National Commission on the Rights of the Child.[12]

7. NCHR stated that, after the 18th Amendment to the Constitution in 2010, a bulk of responsibilities with regards to human rights had been transferred to the provinces. However, their mandates often overlapped and created confusion.[13]

8. JS11 noted that, in 2014, the Supreme Court had ordered the establishment of a National Council for the Rights of Minorities. However, no representatives of minority groups had been consulted in the process of its establishment, and it was yet to be formally established.[14]

9. Concerning including human rights education in school curricula[15], Joint Submission (JS13) stated that there was a need to expedite its process and involve National and Provincial Human Rights Commissions and human rights experts from religious minorities.[16]

C. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Cross cutting issues

Equality and non-discrimination[17]

10. Joint Submission 5 (JS5) stated that discrimination against religious minorities was embedded in several laws and the Constitution. Though some legislative measures did exist to support minorities, effective implementation of such measures in practice had been lacking.[18]

11. Muslims for Progressive Values (MPV) stated that blasphemy legislation bolstered and sustained societal attitudes of discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities. Such laws provided a legal and institutional platform for non-state actors to discriminate against them.[19]

12. JS13 noted a lack of political participation of religious minorities.[20] JS11 stated that the Constitution limited the posts of President, Prime Minister and Speaker of National Assembly to Muslims.[21] ADF International expressed similar concern.[22]

13. JS5 indicated that five per cent of government positions were reserved for minority groups. However, the only type of employment allocated for minorities were generally low skilled janitorial jobs.[23] Joint Submission 14 (JS14) and Joint Submission 17 (JS17) expressed similar concern.[24]

14. JS13 noted that Hindus and Christians were suffering discrimination in an Islamic society. Furthermore, Dalits fell victim to caste-based discrimination. Thus, Scheduled Castes/ Dalits suffered double or intersecting forms of discrimination.[25]

15. Concerning recommendations to combat discrimination against religious minorities and castes[26], JS13 stated that Pakistan had not taken specific actions aimed at eliminating the practice of discrimination against Scheduled Castes, eradicating their poverty and deprivation of basic necessities, including health, and prohibiting their forced conversion.[27]

16. Joint Submission 9 (JS9) noted that the Hindu minority was particularly affected by oppressive national laws and discrimination.[28] Most bonded labourers in Sindh belonged to the Hindu minority, mainly belonging to the Scheduled Castes.[29]

17. Joint Submission 7 (JS7) stated that, due to the criminalization of homosexuality in the Penal Code, LGBTIQ individuals were reluctant to reveal their sexual orientation and identity. The Supreme Court granted transgender people the right to vote and attain a National Identity Card in 2011, but this had not been translated into legal and policy remedies to guarantee their rights.[30] Joint Submission 15 (JS15) reported that transgender people, in particular transgender women, faced harassment, mistreatment and exclusion from society.[31]

18. Kaleidoscope Australia Human Rights Foundation (KHRF) recommended that Pakistan: decriminalise consensual same-sex sexual relations; introduce laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and intersex status in all areas of public life; introduce legislation recognising the rights of same-sex couples, including the right to marry and parenting rights; and codify the recent fatwa recognising marriage, inheritance and funeral rights for transgender people into binding legislation.[32]

Development, the environment, and business and human rights[33]

19. Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO) stated that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was being implemented against the express will of the local indigenous population. It noted the collateral air pollution and the Government's secrecy around the project. In Sindh, stakeholders had not been involved at any stage of the project. In Balochistan, people were suffering from land grabs and enforced displacement due to CPEC-related projects.[34]

Human rights and counter-terrorism[35]

20. Concerning recommendation on the reform of the judiciary[36], Human Rights Watch (HRW) indicated that Pakistan had approved the functioning of secret military courts empowered to try civilians and impose the death penalty in terrorism-related cases for a period of two years.[37]

21. Ahmadiyya Muslim Lawyers Association (AMLA), CSW and IHRC7 stated counter-terrorism authorities had used the framework of the National Action Plan to arrest and prosecute vulnerable Ahmadis as "terrorists" under the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1997.[38]

22. AI noted allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention in connection with counter-terrorism operations. The Protection of Pakistan Act, 2004 allowed for preventive detention for up to 90 days and for law enforcement officials to carry out searches without a warrant and to arrest people without judicial approval for a range of offences.[39]

23. Privacy International indicated that the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016, drafted to combat terrorism, utilised such overly broad language that it weakened the right to privacy and potentially criminalised freedom of expression.[40]

24. Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) stated that there were still reports of drone attacks killing civilians.[41]

2. Civil and Political Rights

Right to life, liberty and security of person[42]

25. UNPO regretted that the decision of Pakistan to lift the moratorium on the death penalty in December 2014 contravened repeated recommendations made by many states.[43] Joint Submission (JS4) stated that, while originally the moratorium had been lifted only for terrorism cases, in March 2015, Pakistan had extended the resumption of executions for other offences, such as kidnapping and drug-trafficking.[44]

26. The Child Rights International Network (CRIN) noted that, since Pakistan had lifted its moratorium, it had carried out the death penalty for child offenders.[45] JS4 stated that lack of birth registration remained a major obstacle to juvenile justice. The police often recorded the age of the accused on the basis of a cursory visual assessment.[46]

27. JS4 also indicated that Pakistan had no legislative provision that expressly protected people with psycho-social disabilities from the death penalty.[47]

28. Front Line Defenders (FLD) stated that brutal sectarian violence and numerous killings of human rights defenders in Balochistan had forced most NGOs to close their offices. Human rights defenders working to defend the rights of women in the tribal areas faced the highest risks.[48]

29. Joint Submission 6 (JS6) indicated that extra-judicial killings often came after prolonged enforced disappearance[49] and that the victims in Sindh were mostly political activists.[50] FLD noted that human rights defenders working on issues of minority rights, religious freedom and land-grabs were at increased risk of enforced disappearance.[51] JS12 stated that media workers reporting on national security issues were particularly at risk.[52]

30. HRCP and HRW stated that Pakistan had accepted a recommendation to specifically criminalize enforced disappearances in the Penal Code[53], however, that it had failed to uphold that commitment.[54] JS11 and ICJ made similar observations.[55]

31. HRCP stated that Pakistan had enacted new legislation that facilitated the perpetration of enforced disappearances, including Action in Aid of Civil Power Regulation 2011 and the Protection of Pakistan Act 2014, which had the impact of legalising forms of secret, unacknowledged, and incommunicado detention.[56]

32. HRCP continued that, despite accepting recommendation 122.114[57] to take effective measures against enforced disappearances by strengthening the Commission of Inquiry, Pakistan had failed to strengthen and allocate sufficient resources to the Commission.[58] Furthermore, despite the acceptance of recommendations to reinforce its efforts to fight impunity regarding cases of enforced disappearance recommendations[59], Pakistan had failed to make efforts to bring perpetrators of enforced disappearances to justice at all levels.[60]

33. JS6 reported that, depending on the source, official numbers of the cases of enforced disappearances varied. Many instances went unreported because of fear of repercussions for the victims or those who reported their disappearance.[61]

34. JS11 noted that confessions obtained through torture were the basis upon which the anti-terrorism courts were handing down death sentences.[62] ICJ, JS4, and JS11 indicated

that, despite its obligations under CAT to enact an anti-torture law, Pakistan had not done so.[63]

35. AI indicated that domestic law did not provide for an independent mechanism to monitor the conditions of prisons. Those awaiting trial were mixed with convicted prisoners, and many of the country's jails were overcrowded.[64]

Administration of justice, including impunity and the rule of law[65]

36. JS11 stated that the criminal justice system had completely collapsed. The Government had outsourced the entire judicial process to the military. This was the third time that military courts had been established, citing unusual circumstances; however, this was the first time that military courts had been established through a constitutional amendment to silence any dissent from the Supreme Court.[66] JS11 recommended that Pakistan ensure the abolition of the military courts and parallel justice system in the form of *jirgas*.[67]

37. JS4 stated that many death penalty cases were heard by the anti-terrorism courts under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997. JS4 and William S. Richardson School of Law at University of Hawaii (UH Law School) indicated that these courts explicitly imposed multiple curtailments on a defendant's right to a fair trial.[68]

38. ICJ stated that the proceedings before military courts fell far short of national and international fair trial standards: judges were part of the executive branch of the State and continued to be subjected to military command; the right to appeal to civilian courts was not available; the right to a public hearing was not guaranteed; a duly reasoned, written judgment was denied; the procedures of military courts, the selection of cases to be referred to them, the location and timing of trial, and details about the alleged offences were kept secret; the right to legal counsel of choice was denied; and a very high number of convictions were based on "confessions" without adequate safeguards against torture and ill treatment.[69] ICJ furthermore indicated that, in March 2017, Parliament had once again passed legislation to renew the jurisdiction of military courts to try civilian terrorism suspects in secret trials for another two years.[70]

39. FLD stated that the use of the judicial system against human rights defenders was widespread. Fabricated charges of blasphemy had been used repeatedly against human rights defenders.[71]

40. HRW indicated that no progress had been made concerning supported recommendation 122.118[72] and 122.119[73] on bringing to justice perpetrators of attacks on journalists and introducing strong legislation prohibiting such attacks.[74]

41. Concerning recommendations to ttake measures to prevent discrimination and violence against religious minorities and bring those responsible to justice[75], JS13 stated that, religiously motivated violent incidents were increasing, however, that the law enforcement agencies rarely investigated such incidents.[76]

42. JS6 noted the culture of impunity in cases of enforced disappearances and extra-judicial killing. Many of the crimes had been committed in broad daylight, by uniformed security personnel, or by men arriving in police vehicles.[77] JS4 stated that torture was still accepted as an inevitable part of law enforcement and that perpetrators of torture were granted virtual impunity.[78]

43. ICJ stated that the Torture, Custodial Death and Custodial Rape (Prevention & Punishment) Bill, 2014, provided that, where a complaint of torture was made against members of the armed forces or intelligence agencies, the Federal Investigating Agency must first "seek directions" from the Federal Government before launching an

investigation. According to ICJ, this proposed provision attempted to shield security agencies from criminal proceedings and impeded victims' right to remedy.[79]

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life[80]

44. Joint Submission 16 (JS16) stated that Pakistan had not fully implemented recommendations to promote media and civil society, bring the perpetrators of attacks on journalists to justice, and enact legislation to stop such incidents.[81] JS12 indicated that Pakistan had failed to implement the recommendations relating to civil society space but rather imposed more restrictions.[82]

45. HRW stated that, during the second cycle UPR, Pakistan had agreed to ensure accountability for violent attacks on religious minorities. Pakistan had also agreed to adopt measures to prevent the abuse of blasphemy laws, and halt forced conversions. Nevertheless, since 2012, religious minorities had faced sharply increased insecurity and persecution, such as attacks on Shia mosques and Sufi shrines and against Ahmadis and Christians.[83]

46. ODVV indicated that, despite the fact that the Constitution guaranteed the minority rights to freely practice their religion, religious minorities faced discrimination in both law and practice.[84] JS11 stated that Ahmadis, Christians, Hindus, and Hazara Shias were not allowed to openly profess their beliefs; their properties and even graves were not exempted from being vandalized by fundamentalists.[85]

47. CSW noted that the Shia community had faced systematic persecution in the form of sectarian violence.[86] AI and ODVV noted that the Hazara Shia community in Quetta continued to be targeted.[87]

48. CSW stated that anti-Ahmadi legislation defined the Ahmadi profession of faith as "anti-Islamic".[88] IHRC7 also noted that it was an offense if an Ahmadi believed and expressed his/her true belief that s/he was Muslim.[89] The 2nd amendment to the Constitution declared that Ahmadis were non-Muslims despite their own belief.[90]

49. MPV noted that the Penal Code prohibited Ahmadis from self-identifying as Muslim and participating in Islamic culture and worship with a sentence of three years in prison and a fine. However, the societal ramification of such institutionalized discrimination was often much more egregious. Ahmadis were often violently persecuted and sometimes murdered by non-state actors.[91]

50. AMLA indicated that Pakistan required every citizen applying for a passport to declare his/her faith. If a person wished to declare himself/herself Muslim, s/he must declare that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani, founder of Ahmadiyya, was an imposter. Pakistanis who wished to obtain a National Identity Card were required to make a similar declaration. The passport declaration prevented Ahmadis from performing Hajj.[92]

51. According to JS9, the incidence of forced conversion and marriage of non-Muslim girls had noticeably increased.[93] CSW indicated that such incidents were prevalent in Sindh province. Hindu and Christian girls and women were systematically targeted by Muslim men, kidnapped, converted to Islam and married to the abductor or third party without their informed consent.[94]

52. CSW, Nonviolent Radical Party Transnational Transparty (NRPTT), JUBILEE, JS5 and JS14 noted that, due to massive pressure from conservative and extremist Islamic groups, the Sindh Assembly had retracted a bill against forced conversions in 2016 (Criminal Law (Protection of Minorities) Act).[95]

53. UNPO stated that Pakistan had made no effort to comply with numerous recommendations to modify/repeal blasphemy laws.[96] ICJ indicated that Pakistan had also

accepted two recommendations on preventing the abuse of the blasphemy laws, however, failed to address them in law or in practice.[97]

54. ADF International stated that blasphemy laws were interpreted widely and had been applied to people speaking out against Islam or its prophets.[98] AI indicated that Ahmadis and Christians had been attacked and killed following a mere allegation of blasphemy.[99]

55. Joint Submission (JS18) noted that, in March 2017, the Islamabad High Court had ordered the Interior Ministry to scrutinize the internet to remove all instances of 'blasphemous content' online 'even if it meant blocking all access to social media platforms'.[100]

56. SAR noted violence against professors and higher education institutions under the blasphemy law.[101] JS18 stated that there was a strong concern of growing online and offline surveillance over progressive and liberal academics, and literary figures, due to which many resorted to self-censorship.[102]

57. JS18 indicated that Pakistan did not implement previous recommendations 122.75[103], 122.101[104] and 122.118[105] to promote civil society and the media, protect the right to life and freedom of expression of human rights defenders, and bring to justice perpetrators of attacks on journalists.[106] JS20 stated that recommendations from last UPR to decriminalize defamation had not been implemented.[107]

58. JS8, JS16 and JS20 noted that freedom of speech and expression was guaranteed as a fundamental right under Article 19 of the Constitution; however, the limitations permitted under this provision were broad, vague, prone to abuse and not recognised by international human rights law.[108]

59. JS20 reported about censorship of broadcast channels and programmes by the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority, which lacked sufficient procedural safeguards.[109] Joint Submission 10 (JS10) stated that broad definitions and unclear procedures under the Penal Code, Anti-Terrorism Act and other laws regulating artistic expression enabled arbitrary, abusive and disproportionate interpretation and application of the laws.[110] JS3 recommended amending the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act 2016 to decriminalise dissent and restrict criminalisation to hate speech.[111]

60. JS12 reported that the police could refuse to give a permit to organise an assembly if they believed that it could cause a breach of the peace. In October 2016, police carried out mass arbitrary arrests and fired tear gas and rubber bullets at protestors supporting the opposition Tehreek-e-Insaf party. On 31 October 2016, the leaders of the party were arrested for one day. In response to the protests, the Federal Government banned all public gatherings in Islamabad for two months.[112]

61. AI noted that a new policy for the regulation of international NGOs, announced in October 2015, gave powers to the Ministry of Interior to review their registration based on their funding sources and the nature of their programmes. All international NGOs had been directed to re-apply for registration; however, many were still awaiting the outcome of their applications.[113] JS12, JS14 and JS16 expressed similar concern.[114]

62. JS12 indicated that Pakistan had demonstrated its hostility towards human rights defenders through official interventions at the United Nations. In December 2015, Pakistan was one of the states that voted against the General Assembly resolution on human rights defenders.[115]

63. AMLA stated that Ahmadis were denied the right to freely and fairly vote in local, provincial and national elections.[116] CSW indicated that Ahmadis had to declare themselves as non-Muslims in order to vote.[117] HRCP stated the Ahmadis had, for decades,

disassociated from elections, resulting in Ahmadis having no representation, be it national, provincial or district level.[118] IHRC7 expressed similar concern.[119]

Prohibition of all forms of slavery[120]

64. Concerning developing a clear implementation and monitoring plan for the abolition of bonded labour[121], JS13 stated that bonded labour was widespread, particularly in agriculture and brick making, and the majority of victims were Scheduled Caste Hindus, Christians and Sikhs.[122]

65. JS13 added that, following the 18th amendment to the Constitution in 2010, Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces had adopted Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 2015. However, the Government had failed to secure a single conviction of the bonded labour perpetrators.[123] NRPTT expressed similar concern.[124]

Right to privacy and family life[125]

66. JS18 noted that the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act posed a serious threat to the right to privacy, as it legitimized the State's ability to access digital communications of citizens, retain service provider's specified data for a minimum of one-year and share it with foreign governments and agencies.[126] Digital Rights Foundation (DRF) expressed similar concern.[127]

67. PI recommended that Pakistan take measures to ensure that its State security and intelligence agencies respect the right to privacy; ensure that all interception activities comply with the principles of legality, proportionality and necessity; and ensure that they are subject to independent oversight mechanisms.[128]

68. JS5 noted the adoption of the Hindu Marriage Bill, which aimed at protecting Hindu marriages and family rights.[129] UNPO noted that Sindh also passed a law that finally recognised Hindu marriages.[130]

69. JS17 stated that the Christian Divorce Act, 1869 and Christian Marriage Act, 1872 had not been reviewed for nearly 150 years. These laws were not only stringent, but also inconsistent with the standards of gender equality in marriage.[131]

70. UNPO noted that Canada and Austria had recommended Pakistan to prevent underage and forced marriage as well as forced conversion through marriage, however, that these recommendations had not been implemented. In 2016, due to immense pressure form the Council of Islamic Ideology, the National Assembly had withdrawn a bill stipulating the minimum age for marriage to be increased to 18.[132]

71. Joint Submission 2 (JS2) indicated that the Sindh Assembly had adopted the Sindh Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2013, which increased the minimum age of marriage for girls to 18. However, JS13 indicated that the courts were failing to implement the Act, especially in cases concerning Hindu Dalit minors. The absence of birth registration among the Scheduled Caste Hindu community was a significant hurdle to the implementation of the Act.[133]

72. JS2 noted that, in Punjab, a Bill introducing harsh penalties for marriages below 16 years had been adopted. However, it did not raise the age of marriage for girls.[134]

3. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work[135]

73. NCHR reported that economic growth had not been equitable and a significant proportion of workers earned less than 100USD per month. It recommended ensuring the implementation of minimum wage standards.[136]

74. According to NCHR, there were no independent laws in place that instructed occupational health and safety. Incidents such as the Baldia Factory fire resulting in the death of over 200 workers and the Gedani shipbreaking incident in 2016 exemplified this problem. NCHR recommended strengthening legal provisions on occupational health and safety to make them compliant with ICESCR.[137]

75. HRCP stated that, in February 2015, the Federal Ombudsman proposed an amendment to the Protection of Women from Harassment in the Workplace Act, 2010, to extend the definition of 'workplace' to include workplaces of domestic servants and homebased workers. However, the amendment had not been adopted.[138] JS8 recommended the adoption of the long awaited Domestic Workers Bill.[139]

Right to an adequate standard of living[140]

76. JS8 stated that Pakistan had failed to comply with its commitments to achieve the MDGs, specifically those related to eradicating child poverty, achieving universal primary education, reducing mortality rates and improving maternal health. Pakistan's social indicators had consistently failed to match its economic progress. There were still no specific plans of action in place to achieve the SDGs. There was no involvement of the CSOs in the process of monitoring its progress.[141]

Right to health[142]

77. NCHR indicated that the Government spent barely 0.42 per cent of the GDP on health and recommended immediately raising the GDP allocation on health.[143]

78. JS8 recommended that legislation be adopted at the federal and provincial levels to make immunization compulsory.[144] It also recommended prioritizing policies and programmes on nutrition, vaccination, and health workers to reduce maternal, neonatal, and child mortality and making sufficient budgetary allocations.[145]

79. JS7 noted marked gender inequalities in access to education and health care. Most of the schools in the rural areas did not have a toilet, which made it nearly impossible for girls to attend school once they started menstruating, hence increasing the drop out ratio. Social norms enforcing segregation between males and females restricted mobility of unmarried young girls, limiting their access to basic health care.[146]

Right to education[147]

80. NCHR stated that less than two per cent of the GDP was allocated to education.[148] Joint Submission 19 (JS19) indicated that almost one in every five children of primary school age was not in school. Insufficient domestic prioritisation and financing continued to undermine the realisation of the right to education.[149]

81. Concerning recommendations on the right to education[150], JS19 stated that the situation had not improved, especially within the context of access to quality education for all, regardless of social class, gender or ethnicity.[151]

82. JS19 stated that the growth of privatization of education with the support of State and bilateral international donors threatened to further infringe upon the realization of the right to education.[152]

83. JS17 stated that recommendations on reviewing public school curricula to eliminate prejudice against minorities[153] had not been implemented.[154] JS14 indicated that the curriculum was religiously and gender biased and historically distorted, inciting intolerance and prejudice.[155]

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women[156]

84. UNPO indicated that support for eliminating gender inequality remained low and that the recommendations by Germany, Australia and others to adequately fund and empower the National Commission on the Status of Women had not been implemented.[157]

85. UNPO stated that Sharia law was still being applied in combination with civil law, which resulted in a continued devaluation of women's testimony in court and the denial of child custody after divorce.[158]

86. HRCP stated that recommendations on violence against women and domestic violence[159] had been partially implemented, as the Punjab Protection of Women against Violence Act, 2016 had been passed into law in March 2016.[160]

87. HRCP noted the adoption of the Offences in the Name or Pretext of Honour Act 2016 and Anti-Rape Law. However, HRCP and ODVV indicated that the law had many loopholes[161] which left room for perpetrators to escape punishment.[162] UH Law School also noted continuous challenges that could prevent honour killing convictions, such as underreporting, lack of evidence, and a perceived religious justification.[163]

88. JS5 stated that minority women were doubly subject to discrimination for being a woman and a minority. Minority women of lower castes are particularly vulnerable to kidnapping and forced conversion.[164]

89. AI stated that access to justice remained difficult for women. Police officers and lawyers often encouraged survivors of violence to reach "out-of-court" settlements. Female officers made up less than one per cent of the police force.[165] UNPO also stated that, as of 2016, no effort had been made to address repeated recommendations to introduce mandatory gender sensitivity trainings for police officers.[166]

90. HRW stated that women had been denied the right to vote in various parts of the country. In May 2015, during a parliamentary by-election in Lower Dir District in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, none of the eligible 50,000 women in the constituency had voted after warnings reportedly broadcast on mosque loudspeakers.[167]

91. DRF noted that there was a stark gender gap in the usage and ownership of mobile phones. Internet was shut down in highly security areas like Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and Balochistan. However, women were not able to travel to internet cafes because of their gender.[168] Furthermore, "eVAW" was increasing with the proliferation of digital communication. This included online violence, such as harassment in digital spaces, and offline violence as a result of online activity.[169] JS16 expressed similar concern.[170]

Children[171]

92. JS8 recommended taking legal and administrative measures to remove obstacles to birth registration, particularly for vulnerable children in society, e.g. sex workers' children,

children in street situations, children with variant abilities and orphans, and harmonizing laws related to birth registration across the country.[172]

93. Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) noted that corporal punishment of children was not fully unlawful in any settings and recommended its prohibition in all settings, including the home, throughout the territory.[173]

94. JS2 reported that children working in small hotels, restaurants and in the deep-sea fishing and transport industries were among the most susceptible to sexual exploitation. Unlike female prostitution, the sexual exploitation of boys was more visible. More freedom of movement allowed to boys put them at higher risk. Boys were reported to be sexually abused also in schools or madrassas. Transgendered children were also at heightened risk.[174]

95. JS8 indicated that the absence of recognition of child domestic labour as a worst form of child labour made it very difficult to produce a precise estimate of its scale and impact.[175]

96. JS2 noted that most children were trafficked domestically, mainly from rural and other poor areas to urban areas.[176]

97. CRIN and JS8 noted the enactment of the Criminal Laws (Second Amendment) Act, 2016 whereby the minimum age of criminal responsibility had been increased from seven years to ten years in the Penal Code.[177]

98. HRCP stated that the amendments to the Army Act 1952 had not expressly excluded juveniles from trial before military courts.[178] JS8 noted that the Protection of Pakistan Act 2014 gave it an overriding effect over other laws, including the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance of 2000, which prohibited the preventive detention of children below 15 years of age.[179]

Persons with disabilities[180]

99. Concerning working for the welfare of persons with disabilities[181], HRW indicated that the implementation of CRPD was very slow. As state party, Pakistan was obliged to provide adequate health care, support, and procedural adjustments to enable people with disabilities to participate in the judicial process. Yet adequate safeguards for them had not been put in place. Some individuals with physical or psychosocial disabilities were on death row in very difficult conditions, including in solitary confinement.[182]

Minorities and indigenous peoples[183]

100. UNPO indicated that Pakistan had not recognized non-religious minorities, such as the Sindhi, Balochi or the indigenous predominantly Shia peoples of Gilgit-Baltistan.[184]

101. Cultural Survival (CS) stated that many indigenous peoples lived within the borders of Pakistan, yet the Government refused to acknowledge them and referred to them as ethnic minorities. The Koochis, Rebari, Bakarwal, Kehal, Jogi, Kabootra, Sanyasi and Kalash were indigenous peoples in Pakistan.[185]

102. CS continued that, while Pakistan had yet to recognize the Kalash as indigenous peoples, the Government did recognize Kalasha as a separate religion.[186] However, Kalasha was constantly under threat as attempts were made to voluntarily and forcibly convert the Kalash to Islam.[187]

103. CS indicated that, as of August 2012, there were nine Kalasha primary schools, funded partly or fully by non-profit organizations. In these schools, children were taught the Kalasha language and about Kalasha religion and culture. However, there were no

secondary schools teaching in the Kalasha language or about Kalasha religion and culture.[69]

Refugees and internally displaced persons[70]

104. AI was concerned that refugees were being repatriated to a third country, which continued to experience conflict and instability, possibly in violation of the prohibition of non-refoulement. Those left behind faced an uncertain future and harassment by the authorities.[71]

105. Joint Submission 1 (JS1) noted that the military operation *Zarb-e-Azb* in 2014 in northwest of Pakistan, had resulted in over one million displaced people in 2015. It indicated that a lack of a national IDP policy had serious implications for the fulfillment of basic human rights of IDPs.[72] JS1 also stated that IDPs from FATA were marginalized, as most legal frameworks were not applicable to them, further compounding violations of their rights, particularly women.[73]

Notes

The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org

Civil society

Individual submissions:

ADF International	ADF International, Geneva (Switzerland);
AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
AMAA	Ahmadiyya Muslim Lawyers Association, Washington DC (United States of America);
CRIN	The Child Rights International Network, London, (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
CS	Cultural survival, Cambridge, Massachusetts (United States of America);
CSW	Christian Solidarity Worldwide, New Malden (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
DRF	Digital Rights Foundation, Lahore (Pakistan);
FLD	Front Line Defenders, Dublin (Ireland);
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
HRCP	Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Lahore (Pakistan);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists, Geneva (Switzerland);
IHRC	International Human Rights Committee, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
JUBILEE	Jubilee Campaign, Fairfax, Virginia (United States of America);
KHRF	Kaleidoscope Australia Human Rights Foundation, Clayton (Australia);
MPV	Muslims for Progressive Values, Los Angeles (United States of America);
NPA	Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational Transparty, Rome (Italy);
OPDV	Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Tehran (Iran, Islamic Republic of);

PI	Private individuals (London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland))
SAR	Solidarity at Risk Network, New York (United States of America)
UH Law School	William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii (Honolulu (United States of America))
UNPO	Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, The Hague (Netherlands)

Joint submissions:

JS1	**Joint submission 1 submitted by:** Women's Regional Network, FATA Commission of Human Rights, Khwendo Kor, Academia Store Education Trust, Human Development Organization Dudha, EVAW Alliance, Community Awareness and Resource Development, Democracy Reporting International, Provincial Civil Society Network, Community Base Programme, Shirkat Gah, FATA Lawyers Forum, Strengthening Participatory Organization, The Hawwa Ear, Peshawar Singh Sewa Society, Society for Rural Development, Legal Awareness and Advocacy Services, FATA MAN Alliance, The Rising Hope Blue Veins, Aurat Foundation, National Youth Organization, Dreams of Peshawar, South Asia Partnership-PK, Media Field Friends Welfare Organization, FATA Youth Empowerment and Development Association, Takatu Qabilay Khwendo, and Women Action Forum Peshawar
JS2	**Joint submission 2 submitted by:** ECPAT International and Pakistan Paediatric Association
JS3	**Joint submission 3 submitted by:** RNF-JCWH and Freedom network (Pakistan)
JS4	**Joint submission 4 submitted by:** Asiawise, World Organization Against Torture (OMCT), Justice Project Pakistan (JPP), and World Coalition Against the Death Penalty (WCADP)
JS5	**Joint submission 5 submitted by:** Global Human Rights Defence and Human Rights Forum Pakistan (HRFP)
JS6	**Joint submission 6 submitted by:** World Sindhi Congress and Asian Legal Resource Centre
JS7	**Joint submission 7 submitted by:** The Sexual Rights Initiative, Rahnuma Family Planning Association of Pakistan on behalf of Right Here Right Now Alliance, Pakistan
JS8	**Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Child Rights Movement
JS9	**Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization and World Sindhi Congress
JS10	**Joint submission 10 submitted by:** Freedom and Shirkat Gah
JS11	**Joint submission 11 submitted by:** Asian Legal Resource Centre, Women In Struggle for Empowerment (WINE), World Sindhi Congress (WSC), and The Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization (UNPO)
JS12	**Joint submission 12 submitted by:** CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
JS13	**Joint submission 13 submitted by:** International Dalit Solidarity Network and Pakistan Dalit Solidarity Network
JS14	**Joint submission 14 submitted by:** The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, the Centre for Legal

Awareness and Settlement and the Christian Conference of Asia.

28.15	**Joint submission 15 submitted by:** Forum for Dignity Initiatives-FDI, Bhit Vasis Forum for Dignity Initiatives, Karachi Male Health Alliance, Quetta Male Health Alliance, Lyari Foundation, Humsar Male Health Society, HIV/AIDS - Multan and Karachi Network, Khawaja Sara Society N.G.O Pakistan, Pindi Male Health Society, Sub Rang Society, Transactee, Waseel, Dr Fahad Mbbs, Mano Zaman, and Imran Zaidi[64].
28.16	**Joint submission 16 submitted by:** Rutgers for All Pakistan (RAP), Association for Progressive Communications (APC), Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA), Aurat Foundation (AF), Association of Women for Awareness and Motivation (AWAM), Association for Women's Awareness and Rural Development (AWARD), Center for Social Justice (CSJ), Coalition on Rights and Responsibilities of Youth (CRY), Institute of Development Research and Corresponding Capabilities (IDRAC), Media Matters for Democracy (MMFD), National Commission for Justice and Peace (NCJP), Public Interest Civil Society Network (PICSN), Pakistan NGOs Forum (PNF), South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAP-PK), Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), and Women in Struggle for Empowerment (WISE).
28.17	**Joint submission 17 submitted by:** Centre for Social Justice, Association for Women's Awareness and Motivation (AWAM), Aurat Workers Party, Bhit Vasis, Rutgers for All (RAP), Catholic National Commission for Justice and Peace (CNJP), Christian Study Centre (CSC), Democratic Commission for Human Rights Development (DCHRD), Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (PILER), Punjab Union of Journalists (PUJ), Rights Now Pakistan, South Asia Partnership-Pakistan, and Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI).
28.18	**Joint submission 18 submitted by:** Rutgers for All Pakistan, Media Matters for Democracy, Ending Violence against Women and Girls (EVAWG) Alliance, Association for Progressive Communications, Vasan Pakistan, and Naaptar Society.
28.19	**Joint submission 19 submitted by:** Pakistan Coalition for Education, with support of the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), Child Rights Movement Pakistan (CRM), Society for Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC), Bonded Labour Liberation Front (BLLF), Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research (PILER), Pakistan Fisher folk Forum (PFF), Community Development Organization (CDO), Workers Education and Research Organization (WERO) and Program on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (PWESCR)-Pakistan.
28.20	**Joint submission 20 submitted by:** Article 19, Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF), and IFJ.

National human rights institution

28.188	National Commission for Human Rights Pakistan, Islamabad

(Pakistan)

[1] The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
ICESCR-OP	Optional Protocol to ICESCR.
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR.
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.
CERD	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW.
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT.
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child.
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure.
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD.
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

[2] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.1, 122.2, 122.3, 122.4, 122.5, 122.6, 122.7, 122.8, 122.9, 122.10, 122.11, 122.12, 122.13, 122.14, 122.77, 122.78, 122.79, 122.80, and 122.81.

[3] A/C.3/63/SR.6, para. 3 / A/HRC/8/46, p. 6 / A/HRC/8/5, para. 24 / CERD/C/PAK/CO/19, para. 17 / MPV, p. 8 / NCHR, pp. 5-6 / E/CN.4/2003/8, para. 9 / JS2, p. 7 / JS6, p. 10 / JS9, paras. 38, 39 and 23 / JS10, para. 68 / JS11, paras. 9.a., 9.b, and 9.c / JS16, para. 6[a] / JS17 recommendations 13 / JS18, para. 44.

[4] A/C.3/63/SR.6, para. 24 / A/C.3/63/SR.6, p. 6 / A/63/8, para. 32 / JS12, p. 19.

[5] JS11, paras. 9.b and 9.c.

[6] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.16, 122.23, 122.42, 122.43, 122.44, 122.45, 122.46, 122.47, 122.48, 122.49, 122.50, 122.51, 122.52, 122.53, 122.63, 122.64, 122.65, 122.69, 122.70, 122.71, 122.94, and 122.192.

[7] JS6, para. 2.

[8] A/C.3/63/SR.6, para. 3.1.

[9] A/C.3/63/SR.6, p. 3.

[10] E/CN.4/2003/8, para. 9 / E/CN.4/2003/8/Corr.1, para. 3 / CERD/C/PAK/CO/19, para. 17 / JS20, para. 39.

[11] A/C.3/63/SR.6, p. 6 / JS6, para. 6.

[12] A/C.3/63/SR.6, p. 3.

[13] JS11, para. 20. See also JS17, para. 69.

[14] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.192 (Palestine). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.

[15] JS15, p. 10.

[16] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.38, 122.87, 122.96, 122.194, and 122.198.

[17] JS6, p. 2.

[18] MPV, para. 12.1.

[19] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.198 (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.

[20] JS15, p. 9.

[21] JS11, para. 30.

[22] NCHR International, p. 1.

[23] JS3, p. 9.

[24] JS16, para. 6 / JS17, para. 49.

[25] JS3, p. 3.

[26] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.97 (Iraq), 122.92 (Holy See), 122.129 (Thailand), 122.156 (Canada). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.

[27] JS13, pp. 4, 7 and 9.
[28] JS9, para. 6.
[29] JS9, para. 10.
[30] JS7, paras. 21-23.
[31] JS15, para. 3. See also HRW, p. 5.
[32] KHRF, paras. 7.1 (a)-(d).
[33] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17 and 122.18.
[34] UNPO, paras. 21-22.
[35] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.165.
[36] A/HRC/22/12, para.122.109 (Russian Federation). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[37] HRW, p. 4.
[38] AMI, A, para. 12 / CSW, para. 21 / IHRC7, para. 17.
[39] AI, p. 4.
[40] PI, para. 14.
[41] ODVV, para. 11.
[42] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.19, 122.20, 122.98, 122.99, 122.100, 122.114, and 123.1.
[43] UNPO, para. 12.
[44] JS4, para. 5.
[45] CRIN, pp. 1 and 5.
[46] JS4, para. 22.
[47] JS4, para. 30.
[48] FLD, para. 2.
[49] JS6, para. 9.
[50] JS6, para. 12.
[51] FLD, para. 15.
[52] JS12, para. 4.5.
[53] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.20 (France). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[54] HRCP, para. 12. / HRW, p. 4.
[55] JS11, p. 7 / ICJ, para. 8.
[56] HRCP, para. 17.
[57] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.114 (Germany) (Sweden). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[58] HRCP, para. 14.
[59] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.111 (Switzerland) and 122.115 (Belgium). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[60] HRCP, para. 15.
[61] JS6, paras. 5-7.
[62] JS11, para. 25.
[63] ICJ, para. 12 / JS4, para. 12 / JS11, para. 34.
[64] AI, p. 5.
[65] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.32, 122.56, 122.101, 122.109, 122.110, 122.112, 122.113, 122.115, 122.116, 112.117, 122.118, 122.119, 122.120, and 122.157.
[66] JS11, para. 48.
[67] JS11, para. 56.a.
[68] JS4, para. 42. / UH Law School, para. 17.
[69] ICJ, para. 6.
[70] ICJ, para. 7. See also AI p. 3.
[71] FLD, para. 20.
[72] A/HRC/22/12/, para. 122.118 (Norway). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[73] A/HRC/22/12/, para. 122.119 (Austria). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[74] HRW, pp. 2-3.
[75] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.113 (Norway) and 122.157 (Slovakia). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.

[76] JS13, p. 8.
[77] JS6, para. 10.
[78] JS4, para. 35.
[79] ICJ, para. 16.
[80] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.27, 122.28, 122.29, 122.30, 122.31, 122.32, 122.33, 122.38, 122.75, 122.101, 122.112, 122.113, 122.121, 122.124, 122.125, 122.126, 122.127, 122.155, 122.156, and 122.157.
[81] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.75 (Mauritania), 122.101 (Australia), 122.118 (Norway). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4. JS16, para. 12.
[82] JS12, para. 1.4.
[83] HRW, pp. 1-2.
[84] ODVV, para. 9.
[85] JS11, paras. 27-28.
[86] CSW, para. 18.
[87] AI, p. 6 / ODVV, para. 10.
[88] CSW, para. 20.
[89] HRC7, para. 7.a.
[90] HRC7, para. 7.a.
[91] MPV, para. I.IV.
[92] AMLA, p. 22.
[93] JS9, para. 11.
[94] CSW, para. 31.
[95] CSW, paras. 28 and 32. / JUBILEE, p. 3. / NRPTI, para. 11. /JS5, p. 5. / JS14, para. 6.
[96] UNPO, para. 18.
[97] ICJ, para. 17.
[98] ADF International, para. 12.
[99] AI, pp. 3-4. See also CSW, paras. 9 and 12. / JUBILEE, p. 5. / JS5, p. 3.
[100] JS18, para. 21.
[101] SAR, paras. 3-4.
[102] JS18, para. 23.
[103] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.75 (Mauritania). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[104] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.101(Australia). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[105] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.118(Norway). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[106] JS18, para. 3.
[107] JS20, para. 15.
[108] JS8, para. 4. / JS16, para. 17. / JS20 para. 6.
[109] JS20, para. 30.
[110] JS10, para. 1.
[111] JS3, p. 2. See also AI, p. 5. / JS11, para.11.
[112] JS12, paras. 5.3-5.4.
[113] AI, p. 5.
[114] JS12, para. 2.6. / JS14, p. 5. / JS16, para. 49.
[115] JS17, para. 3.8.
[116] AMLA, pp. 3 and 5.
[117] CSW, para. 24.
[118] HRCP, para. 26.
[119] HRC, paras. 18-21.
[120] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.15, 122.17, 122.18, 122.94, 122.60, 122.95, 122.105.
[121] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.60 (Ireland). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[122] JS13, p. 6.
[123] JS13, pp. 6-7.
[124] NRPTI, para. 3.
[125] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.102, and 122.103.
[126] JS18, para. 7.
[127] IMI, para. 34.

[128] PI, para. 38.
[129] JS5, p. 5.
[130] UNPO, para. 18.
[131] JS17, para. 37.
[132] UNPO, para. 3.
[133] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.102 (Canada) and 122.103 (Austria). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4. JS13, p. 5.
[134] JS2, para. 22.
[135] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.74, 122.90, 122.128, 122.129, 122.130, 122.142, and 122.163.
[136] NCHR, p. 6.
[137] NCHR, p. 7.
[138] HRCP, para. 21.
[139] JS8, para. 21.
[140] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.36, 122.58, 122.87, 122.129, 122.131, 122.132, 122.133, 122.135, 122.136, 122.160, 122.161, 122.162, and 122.164.
[141] JS8, para. 24.
[142] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.17, 122.18, 122.68, 122.131, 122.132, and 122.163.
[143] NCHR, p. 6.
[144] JS8, para. 56.
[145] JS8, para. 57.
[146] JS7, para. 7.
[147] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.58, 122.68, 122.83, 122.92, 122.131, 122.135, 122.136, 122.137, 122.138, 122.140, 122.141, 122.143, 122.144, 122.145, 122.146, 122.147, 122.148, 122.149, 122.151, 122.159, 122.153, and 122.163.
[148] NCHR, p. 6.
[149] JS19, paras. 12 and 18.
[150] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.83 (Spain), 122.143 (Netherlands), 122.144 (Cuba), 122.145 (Oman), 122.146 (Thailand), para. 122.147 (Japan). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. / A/HRC/8/42, para. 106.36 (Finland). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/8/42, para. 38.
[151] JS19, paras. 3-5.
[152] JS19, paras. 3-5.
[153] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.149 (Germany), 122.150 (Holy See), 122.151 (Iceland), and 122.152 (Palestine). For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[154] JS17, para. 26.
[155] JS14, para. 9.
[156] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.13, 122.14, 122.17, 122.18, 122.20, 122.22, 122.23, 122.25, 122.26, 122.35, 122.36, 122.37, 122.38, 122.40, 122.41, 122.91, 122.93, 122.61, 122.66, 122.67, 122.82, 122.83, 122.84, 122.85, 122.86, 122.87, 122.88, 122.89, 122.90, 122.91, 122.93, 122.94, 122.95, 122.96, 122.97, 122.107, and 122.108.
[157] UNPO, para. 8.
[158] UNPO, para. 6.
[159] A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.21 (Sweden), 122.25 (Maldives), 122.107 (Egypt).
[160] HRCP, para. 18.
[161] HRCP, para. 20.
[162] OHVV, para. 16.
[163] UHLaw School, para. 6.
[164] JS5, p.4.
[165] AI, p. 6.
[166] UNPO, para. 7.
[167] HRW, p. 5.
[168] JS01, paras. 11-12.
[169] JS01, para. 28.
[170] JS16, para. 57.
[171] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.23, 122.39, 122.40, 122.41, 122.94,

122.59, 122.71, 122.84, 122.91, 122.106, 122.107, 122.134, 122.151, and 122.153.
[172] JS8, paras. 99-100.
[173] GIEACPC, pp. 1-2.
[174] JS2, paras. 8-12.
[175] JS8, paras. 20 and 22.
[176] JS2, para. 7.
[177] CRIN, p. 1. / JS8, para. 29.
[178] HRCP, para. 6.
[179] JS8, paras. 41-42.
[180] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.41 and 122.91.
[181] A/HRC/22/12, para. 122.91. For position of Pakistan, see A/HRC/22/12/Add.1, para. 4.
[182] HRW, pp. 6-7.
[183] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.41.
[184] UNPO, para. 21.
[185] CS, p. 2.
[186] CS, p. 3.
[187] CS, p. 5.
[188] CS, p. 6.
[189] For relevant recommendations, see A/HRC/22/12, paras. 122.41 and 122.159.
[190] AI, p. 7.
[191] JS1, p. 9.
[192] JS1, p. 10.